

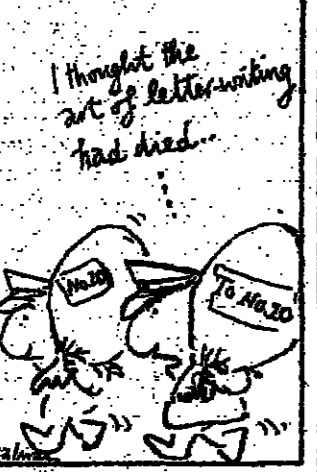
THE TIMES 1785-1985 Tomorrow Cholera cover-up Paul Valley on the disease Ethiopian officials dare not name Sporting Thirties Geoffrey Green, doyen of Films sports writers, turns the clock back fifty years Au revoir Michael Quinn, the Ritz's first English head chef tells Saturday why he is leaving Tall order Non-league Telford take on Everton in the fifth round of the FA Cup

Portfolio Over £60,000 can be won in The Times Portfolio competition tomorrow the £20,000 weekly prize is tripled because no-one won it last week or the week before. And there is £2,000 in tomorrow's daily competition, making a total of £62,000. There was no winner yesterday, so today's prize is increased to £4,000. Portfolio list, page 21; how to play, information service, back page.

New crisis in Central America Prospects for peace in Central America slumped dramatically when Washington's principal regional allies - Costa Rica, El Salvador and Honduras - withdrew from a meeting of the Contadora group. The crisis blew up over a dispute between Costa Rica and Nicaragua Page 6

Pupils first Headteachers have been told by their associations that the interests of the pupils come first in the present industrial action over pay Back page

Concorde record A British Airways Concorde touched down in Sydney after trimming seven hours from the previous fastest time for the 10,600-mile flight from London Page 9



Oil price up Spot market prices of North Sea oil rose sharply after the Government's decision to continue to subsidize the British National Oil Corporation's trading losses Page 19

Match off Wales have postponed tomorrow's rugby union match against England at Cardiff because of continuing bad weather Page 27

SPECIAL REPORT Who needs an office when you can keep in touch in the car? A six-page Special Report looks at the vast improvement in mobile communications over the past three years and how it could change our lifestyles

Table with 2 columns: Home News, Overseas, Arts, Business, Sport, Entertainment, Weather. Includes dates and page numbers.

Ministers' honesty called into doubt by Kinnock

Mrs Margaret Thatcher and Mr Neil Kinnock continued their battle of warts yesterday. In the Commons Mr Kinnock said ministers had conspired to deceive the House about the sinking of the General Belgrano.

Mr Neil Kinnock last night impugned the honesty of ministers who, he said, had conspired to deceive the House of Commons over the events surrounding the sinking of the General Belgrano on May 2, 1982. Returning to the attack in the Commons, the Labour leader yesterday repeated the central question which the Prime Minister had missed on Tuesday.

Ponting barred from returning to defence ministry job

Mr Clive Ponting was told yesterday that he would not be allowed to resume his employment in the Ministry of Defence. It appears possible, however, that he could continue as a civil servant in another department if he wished to.

Russians seek cut of 33,000 troops

Moscow yesterday put forward a "new initiative" in disarmament by proposing joint troop withdrawals with the United States from central Europe. The proposal, at the Vienna Talks on Mutual and Balanced Force Reductions, and simultaneously announced in Moscow envisages an initial joint cut of 33,000 troops, to be followed by more radical withdrawals in later stages.

Queen will attend war service

The Queen and the Duke of Edinburgh are to attend a service at Westminster Abbey on May 8 to mark the 40th anniversary of the end of the Second World War (our Political Correspondent writes).

Case of the C5 drives into a legal riddle

Sir Clive Sinclair's controversial C5 electric tricycle careered gently into its first legal obstacle yesterday when the first of its drivers appeared in court accused of being in charge when unfit through drink.



Princess Anne and Captain Mark Phillips being greeted by the Dean of Westminster, Dr Edward Carpenter, at yesterday's unveiling of a memorial to Lord Mountbatten of Burma and Lady Mountbatten at Westminster Abbey (Photograph: John Voss).

TUC talks produce pit peace formula

A formula of words to end the 11-month-old miners' strike has emerged during secret talks between the TUC and the National Coal Board, and leaders of the two pit unions will today be asked to endorse it.

Synod takes MPs' advice on bishops

The Church of England's General Synod backed off from a confrontation with Parliament yesterday after being strongly advised that the issue at stake was not worth it.

Scargill wins French support on Paris trip

Paris - Leaders of the Communist-led French trade union, the CGT, pledged continuing support for the miners strike yesterday after meeting Mr Arthur Scargill, president of the National Union of Mineworkers, and Mr Norman Willis, General Secretary of the TUC, on a one-day visit to Paris (Diane Geddes writes).

\$7m painting challenged as a forgery

Controversy is raging in the art world over a suggestion that the Getty Museum's latest purchase, valued about \$7 million is a forgery (Geraldine Norman, Our Sale Room Correspondent writes).

Surgeon flies to Soviet leader

Dr Evgeny Chazov, the chief Poliburo surgeon and heart specialist, cut short a visit to the United States yesterday and returned here several days early, amid growing fears for the health of President Chernomir.

Closure rights reserved

Mr Sid Vincent, secretary of the Lancashire miners and a key figure in the political calculations about the prospect of the NUM executive doing a deal, said yesterday: "The whole of the national executive committee wants a settlement, including Arthur Scargill. But it has to be an honourable settlement. They will not sell their souls at this stage."

Oil price up

Spot market prices of North Sea oil rose sharply after the Government's decision to continue to subsidize the British National Oil Corporation's trading losses Page 19

Match off

Wales have postponed tomorrow's rugby union match against England at Cardiff because of continuing bad weather Page 27

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Advertisement for Barratt Time Share. Text: 'Barratt TIME SHARE No other investment gives you Holiday Home Ownership and all this interest every year, forever!' Includes details about resorts and contact information.



# Court criticizes example to young fans as Botham is fined for having drugs

From Peter Davenport, Scunthorpe

Ian Botham, aged 29, the England and Somerset cricketer, pleaded guilty yesterday to possessing cannabis. He was fined £100.

After a 20-minute hearing before magistrates in Scunthorpe, Humberside, the chairman of the bench, Mr Gerald Fish, a retired headmaster, told him: "By your sporting prowess you have earned a very large following of admirers - many thousands of whom are young, impressionable people and you may wish to reflect whether, in view of this offence, you have set them the right example."

The court was told by Mr Leslie Bell, for the prosecution, that Det Sgt Malcolm Fowler, of the Humberside Drugs Squad, and other officers went to Botham's house in Blow Row, Epworth, near Scunthorpe, on New Year's eve.

Mr Bell said that on examination by forensic scientists, the substance was found to contain 2.19 grammes of cannabis. It was valued at £4.

Botham, married with two children, was said by Mr Bell to be "financially sound".

Mr Alan Hard, for Botham, said that the cricketer had readily admitted possessing a small amount of the drug. The police arrival at his home had taken the family by surprise, he said, but that there had been no hindrance or objection to the search.

"He made no attempt at any form of cover up, he was scrupulously honest with the police."

Mr Hard said that Botham had been given the drug after a cricket match in London and that it had been "careless and forgetful" of him to leave it in his home for two or three years.

He added: "He had forgotten it was there, which is not surprising. Because of his job he is away from home much more than he is here."

"He is a world-famous sportsman and celebrity with a wife and two young children whose lives have been considerably disrupted since the events of New Year's eve."

Both Mr Botham and his wife Kathy were originally arrested but only he was charged.

Mr Hard said: "Mr Botham and his wife have been more than punished for this indiscretion. News of their arrest was spread over every newspaper and television in the country. No charge was brought against Mrs Botham, who is an ordinary housewife and mother, who has suffered from this matter. This would not have happened to her had her name not been Mrs Botham."



Ian Botham arriving to face drug charges, and his wife leaving after the court verdict

During a search of the house they found in a bedroom drawer, a bank bag containing a vegetable matter. It was shown to Botham by Det Sgt Fowler who asked "What's this?" Mr Bell said that Botham replied "It is cannabis."

The cricketer, a former England captain, was taken to Scunthorpe police station where he was questioned further.

Det Sgt Fowler: Could I just ask you about the substance I found in your bedroom drawer? Do you know what it is?

Botham: Well, I think it is cannabis.

Yes, it appears to be cannabis.

Yes, I think it is grass. It has probably got tobacco mixed with it. I have had a couple of smokes of it but that was some time ago. It has been in my drawer for a long time.

How long?

About two or three years at least. I got it in London when the West Indians came over. A man just came up to me and said "try this", so I took it. I had



Eros with Mr Ken Livingstone yesterday (Photograph: Suresh Karadia)

## Eros back in London after repair

London received a special Valentine yesterday when the statue of Eros, the god of love, was unveiled in its temporary new home at the Royal Festival Hall, after six months of restoration.

Eros will remain on the South Bank until it is returned to Piccadilly Circus in March of next year as part of a redevelopment of the area.

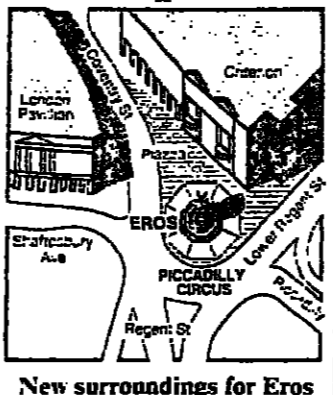
The statue's treatment for corrosion and fractures started last August and was carried out by Henshaw and Sons, Edinburgh, at a cost of more than £200,000.

Welcoming Eros back to London, Mr Ken Livingstone, leader of the GLC, said: "He is as much a part of London as the cockney sparrow and Big Ben."

The fall of pollution, protesters and hippies prompted the repair work.

Designed by Sir Alfred Gilbert to symbolize the works of the social reformer, Lord Shaftesbury, Eros was originally unveiled in 1893.

Londoners took the statue to heart and it was removed for protection during both world wars.



New surroundings for Eros

## Solicitors gaining £40m in interest

By Frances Gibb

Legal Affairs Correspondent

Solicitors in England and Wales earned a total of £40 million in interest on clients' money in their safekeeping in 1983, the National Consumer Council estimates in a discussion paper published today. Although individual sums of money involved are usually small, the total amount of interest earned is sizeable, it says.

The council calls on solicitors to pay out more of the interest earned on clients' money, rather than keeping it.

It would be impracticable for solicitors to pay clients all interest earned, because most sums are held for only a few days and it would not make economic sense to open separate bank accounts and work out what interest is due to each client on a daily basis, it says.

But interest of £10 or more earned on sums of at least £500 should automatically be paid to clients, the council recommends.

## Boy spent three days with dead mother

A boy aged six spent three nights locked in a flat with his dead mother.

Adrian Rayson tried in vain to revive Mrs Kathy Rayson, aged 28, and dragged her from her bed to the lounge where he laid her beside a sofa.

He switched on an electric fire and turned on the television set in hope that she might wake up, and covered her with an overcoat and other bedclothes to try to keep her warm.

But Mrs Rayson, who was five ft tall and weighed six stone, had died from bronchial pneumonia.

The boy could not get out of the flat at Longford Road, Bognor Regis, West Sussex, because he found the door handle too stiff.

His effort to break down the door with a chair failed, and neighbours did not hear the noise.

The boy and the body were found by Mrs Rayson's father, Mr Harvey Cairns, aged 60, who visited the flat on Tuesday.

A post-mortem examination showed that Mrs Rayson died last Saturday of bronchial pneumonia.

Yesterday would have been her twenty-ninth birthday.

Mrs Rayson was the victim of an assault five years ago. She was paralysed down one side of her face.

## B-Cal launches off-peak fares

Cheaper European air fares, which effectively offer discounts to off-peak travellers to Holland and West Germany, were launched yesterday by British Caledonian.

The airline says its "Time Flyer" fares will be available for flights from May ranging from £64 return to Amsterdam and £84 to Frankfurt, with no advance booking restrictions. The only condition is that travellers must stay abroad at least one night.

## Bill aims to halt decline of dog tracks

By Philip Webster, Political Reporter

The Government is backing moves to sweep away restrictions on greyhound racing in an attempt to halt the declining fortunes of Britain's second largest spectator sport.

Under a Bill expected to become law within a few months, the statutory limitation on the number of days that meetings can be held at greyhound tracks will be abolished, as will the restriction on the number of races that can be staged at any one meeting.

Promoters will be allowed to organize meetings on as many days of the year as they wish, apart from Sundays, Christmas Day and Good Friday.

At present tracks cannot hold more than 130 meetings a year, with a maximum of 10 races per meeting.

Some of the leading tracks have been sold and the closure last year of the White City stadium, "our jewel in the crown," according to Mr Fred Underhill, general secretary of the British Greyhound Racing Board, underlined the difficulties the industry was facing.

In a move to increase revenue from the greyhound "tote", the Government is also considering proposals for the introduction of carry-forward pools, similar to the tote jackpot at horse racing meetings. Punters will be able to place accumulator bets on all, or several, races at one meeting and win a jackpot at the end of the year.

The proposals to end restrictions are contained in the Betting, Gaming and Lotteries (Amendment) Bill, a private member's measure, which has been introduced into the Lords by Lord Newall, a Conservative.

## Warning of higher mortgages

By Richard Thomson

The Halifax, Britain's largest building society, said yesterday that a rise in mortgage rates may not be far off.

Mr Richard Hornby, the chairman said: "If mortgage demand picks up and there is no reduction in base rates, we would have to raise our interest rates." But he hoped they would not go above 15 per cent.

A spokesman for the Abbey National, the second largest society, threw doubt on an increase. He said: "We are at the margin on mortgage lending. If we raise mortgage rates now we are afraid it may choke off demand."

The Building Societies Association reported on Tuesday that mortgage demand was unusually slack and that societies had ample funds to meet demand.

## Neighbour 'was lured' to death

Graham Backhouse, a farmer, was the "evil man" behind the car bomb attempt to kill his wife and the shotgun murder of his neighbour, Mr James Black, for the prosecution, told Bristol Crown Court yesterday.

Mr Black claimed that Mr Backhouse lured his neighbour, Mr Colin Bedale-Taylor, to his farmhouse and shot him.

He then gashed himself with a knife to support his claim that he shot in self-defence after being attacked by his neighbour.

Money was the motive, Mr Black suggested. Mr Backhouse owed £70,000.

Was it purely coincidence, he asked, that in March Mrs Backhouse's insurance position was doubled so that she was worth £100,000?

Mr Lionel Read, QC, for the defence, said Mr Backhouse, on unchallenged evidence, loved his wife and children. He was not bankrupt.

Mr Backhouse, aged 44, of Widden Hill Farm, Horton, near Bristol, denies attempting to murder his wife, Mrs Maggie Backhouse, aged 37, on April 9 last year, and pleaded not guilty to murdering Mr Bedale-Taylor.

The trial was adjourned until today.

## Detectives 'led to arms' by IRA men

By Colin Hughes

Unsuspecting Provisional IRA terrorists led detectives to buried caches of ammunition and explosive which could have been used to mount "a prolonged and deadly campaign of violence," the Central Criminal Court was told.

The anti-terrorist squad detectives were trailing Mr Paul Kavanagh, an alleged member of an IRA unit which carried out four London bombings in the autumn of 1981, and another alleged unit member, Mr Naatalino Vella.

Mr Roy Amlot, for the prosecution said that the pair, with two more men, drove to Salcey Forest, Northamptonshire.

Mr Kavanagh faces two charges of possessing arms and explosives with intent to endanger life.

He also faces eight other charges, jointly with Mr Thomas Quigley, related to four bombings and placing one other bomb in London.

Three charges are of murder, one of attempted murder. Both men deny all counts. The trial was adjourned until today.

## Armed men in £1/2m gems raid

Armed raiders yesterday escaped with jewellery worth about £500,000 from English Art Works, the Cartier workshop in New Bond Street, London after handcuffing a member of the staff to a hanging rail inside a cupboard.

Robbery squad officers hunting the two raiders, who were armed with a hand gun, crowbar and baseball bat, and wearing party masks, said the raid had been well planned. The member of staff arrived for work shortly after 7am and was confronted by the men, who ordered him to open the safe.

## Oak preserving

A German-designed machine has been pumping compressed air into the ground around the ancient Major Oak in Sherwood Forest, reputed hide-out of Robin Hood. The machine breaks up the soil without damaging the surface and allows nutrients and water to get to the roots.

## Brewery closes

The Hereford Brewery, Britain's smallest brewery, which was opened two years ago on an industrial estate at Market Deeping, Lincolnshire, has closed because of financial difficulties.

## Legacy boosts RSPCA prosecutions

By Michael Horsnell

A bolder approach by the RSPCA to prosecutions for cruelty to animals is expected after the record £1,733,600 it has been left by a wealthy widow who lived in the Channel Islands.

The ruling council of the charity, which spends more than £4million a year on prosecutions but does not pursue cases whose outcome is felt to be uncertain, will shortly discuss what to do with the legacy.

Mrs Athelreda Hadow, aged 79, specified that the money should be spent on prosecutions. Last year the society prosecuted more than

1,500 cases, of which it lost only 31.

A spokesman said: "We prosecute only as a last resort, preferring to steer people away from cruelty by advice and guidance, and on occasions when we are faced with uncertain cases involving a lot of expense we tend to go ahead with prosecutions. But this money should enhance the capabilities of our inspectorate department which is responsible for prosecutions, even if we decide to withdraw for other purposes a proportion of the £4million we already spend to make way for the £1,733,600 we have been left."

The 1984 RSPCA accounts will not be published until May but it is expected that the

society will report an operating surplus approaching £1million. Income for the year was about £9.4million and outgoings about £8.6million.

About 26.4million, or 68 per cent, of its income was from legacies, £1.8million from fees from its homes and hospitals, £800,000 from investments, and the rest from subscriptions and donations.

Expenditure was about £5million on salaries and employment costs, and about £3.6million on transport, telephones and postage. Prosecution costs involved both of the main areas of expense.

The operating surplus reflects an improvement over the early 1980s when there were substantial deficits.

Is snoring dangerous?  
The very Russian Vishnevskaya.  
Taking the pain out of parking.  
Which university?  
Should the state keep a child from its family?  
These and other pressing matters are explored in the March issue of Good Housekeeping.  
It would be unfortunate to miss it.

# GOOD HOUSEKEEPING

The Essential Magazine



The General Synod

Church decides against taking bishops measure back to the Commons

Moving that the synod should re-submit the Appointment of Bishops Measure to Parliament for approval, Professor J. D. McClean (Sheffield) recalled that it had been approved in July 1983 by overwhelming majorities in the three houses of synod.

Synod voted by a narrow majority yesterday not to re-submit a measure about the appointment of bishops that was rejected by the House of Commons last summer.

By Amanda Haigh and John Winder

The argument about bishops had gone off the rails. If they believed in episcopacy and that bishops should be people of standing in society, because they are pastors of the church, then it was an embarrassment to have such a curious system of choosing them in the first place.

The synods must not forget the historical significance of the event of 1976 when a prime minister gave back to the church most of the stolen rights to choose its own bishops.

in his argument that the matter should be re-presented to Parliament, not least because Parliament's own ecclesiastical committee, 15 peers and 15 MPs, had found this measure to be expedient.

Several speakers, among them the Archbishop of York, Dr John Habgood, said that this technical measure was not an issue on which the church ought to risk a confrontation with Parliament.

MP, who presented the measure to the Commons last summer on behalf of synod, said that when he presented the measure he had believed he had a large majority behind him.

The Archbishop of York, Dr John Habgood, said that Parliament had said to synod by its vote that the issue was important. That put in synod's hands a whole new argument for saying that it was important to see that the church was seen to have the last word in the appointment of its bishops.

Canon P. H. Boulton, Southwell, hoped that this modest proposal to remove the medieval trapping, now replaced by the synodical process, would be accepted. If there was to be a clash with Crown about the appointment of bishops, it had to be something which was seen



Close conferring: The Bishop of Willesden, the Right Rev Geoffrey Thompson (left) and the Bishop of London, Dr Graham Leonard at Church House, Westminster yesterday (Photograph: Peter Trievnor).

ET-a plain man's guide to correct English

By Kenneth Gosling

A plain man and woman's quarterly guide to the correct use of English is to be published later this month by the Cambridge University Press as its first venture into magazines.

The first editorial, by Mr Tom McArthur, the editor, admits that editing English Today, or ET as it is familiarly known, has led to his developing a fellow feeling for tight-rope-walkers and chefs. "Certainly", he writes, "ET's success will depend on keeping one's balance and getting all the ingredients right."

He has the comfort of knowing that, apart from the American-based magazine Verbatim, ET has the field to itself. Its first issue, to be published with a special launch on February 28, clearly appears to plug a gap at a time when there is an unprecedented number of English speakers worldwide causing the language to enter, the editor says, "a period of unparalleled activity and change".

The fact that the press release spells "unparalleled" with four "ls" makes ET controversial from the start.

Also likely to cause some divisions among students of English is Jenny Cheshire's assertion in the first issue that a built-in masculine bias in English has serious implications for both men and women.

Kidnapping threat over Dail vote on birth control

By Richard Ford

An anonymous letter threatening the kidnapping of the wife or one of the six children of Mr Paul Connaughton, minister of state in the Irish Republic, unless he opposed reform of family planning law, was received yesterday as the Irish parliament began debating the issue.

Another letter delivered to the Fine Gael deputy's home in County Galway threatened to burn the house down.

The letter was received while Mr Connaughton was in Dublin for the debate.

Mr Connaughton confirmed that he would support the Bill but the threat is the most serious yet to be made against backbenchers and ministers. Several, including Dr Garret FitzGerald, the republic's prime minister, have received hate-mail and some have had abusive telephone calls amidst increasing pressure to ensure that the reform is defeated when it is voted on in the Dail next week.

The reform will make non-medical contraceptives available to people over 18 without a doctor's prescription.

The Government remains confident that it will be passed. Opening the second reading of the Bill in the Dail yesterday, Mr Barry Desmond, Minister for Health, criticized the "insidious form" of moral blackmail being used against many deputies.

as involving a crown prerogative in relation to the church, not the crown prerogative via Parliament as well. One opponent would be enough, they did not want two.

Winding up the debate, Professor McClean said that their decision had been clear-cut in 1983 and he could not see that the balance had changed.

In a division the proposal to return the measure to Parliament was rejected. The bishops voted 16 for and 16 against; the clergy voted 66 for and 114 against; and the laity voted 99 for and 84 against.

Today the General Synod will debate the deployment of cruise missiles in Britain, and the non-stipendiary ministry.

could only nominate those whom the church's representatives proposed.

"Despite some strange claims in the Commons, we are not threatening any reprisals, any move to disestablishment, if we do not get our way. The house of Commons was entirely within its rights and we have only ourselves to blame if we tried to win their support at a strange hour of the night."

The standing committee of synod saw no merit in devising a new and different measure on the topic. This one deserved to be considered on its merits and not to be caught up in the concern about wider issues which had dominated its consideration last July.

Mr John Gummer, MP, representing St Edmundsbury and Ipswich Diocese, said that although he had spoken against the measure in synod, he had not voted against it in the Commons.

In theory as well as in practice, the bishops were appointed by the Crown, in the recommendations of a perfectly respectable body of men, but in the end appointed by the Crown. Until now, that had been the practice but not the theory.

Mystery as blockage shuts down Sellafield plant

Part of the nuclear reprocessing plant at Sellafield, in Cumbria, has been shut down because of a blockage involving radioactive material, its operators confirmed yesterday.

British Nuclear Fuels (BNF) said that the blockage, in one of the evaporators of the main separation plant, caused the shutdown at the beginning of the month.

Engineers are still trying to unblock the evaporator, but are confident normal work will restart in a week to ten days. A BNF spokesman said: "If you have a blockage of radioactive material you have to devise a way of moving it mechanically. You don't rush into things because people could be at risk."

The blockage is in building 205 where spent fuel from Magnox reactors is reprocessed. The spent fuel rods are treated chemically to separate highly active nuclear waste material from uranium, which can be used again.

Unknown couple found dead on estate

Police were attempting yesterday to find out the identity of two people found dead on the estate of the Queen's racing manager, Lord Porchester.

A young man and a woman were found in a fume-filled car parked on Lord Porchester's estate at Highclere, in Hampshire, on Tuesday. The police do not think there are any suspicious circumstances, but they have been unable to identify the couple.

The dark blue Ford Cortina in which they were found, was registered in a false name, and documents with them also proved to be false.

Police inquiries have extended to Cumbria, Somerset, the Thames Valley and Hampshire.

Doctors put case for deputizing

Family doctors went before a disciplinary committee yesterday to explain why they are defying the Government on deputizing services. The guidelines generally aim at limiting the amount of use doctors may make of such services.

Five doctors face the first private hearing of the Leeds medical services committee where they are accused of breaching guidelines for deputizing work. The doctors are members of an out-of-hours group called the Leeds Doctors Cooperative, which has 200 members, they say the confrontation about deputizing is a test case. Doctors say they should be excluded from the guidelines because the service is run on a non-commercial basis.



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# Central America in crisis as Washington allies quit Contadora meeting

From John Carlin, Mexico City

The long-awaited Contadora meeting to seek diplomatic solutions to the conflicts in Central America was cancelled at the last minute after Washington's principal allies in the region, Costa Rica, El Salvador and Honduras, decided jointly to withdraw. Prospects for peace in the region now look bleak.

The foreign ministers of the three nations debated for four hours on Wednesday and then issued a statement that they would not attend the meeting between the Contadora group - Mexico, Colombia, Venezuela and Panama - and representatives of the five Central American governments in Panama City yesterday and today.

Ostensibly, it was a two-month diplomatic dispute between Costa Rica and Nicaragua which led to this latest disappointment in the Contadora group's two-year effort to find a peaceful settlement in Central America.

The Mexican Foreign Ministry has issued a communiqué saying the meeting has been postponed until "a more propitious moment", judging the time is not right for achieving co-operation and peace in a part of the world where three of the five countries are involved in guerrilla wars.

The United States last month broke off a series of high-level diplomatic talks with Nicaragua, held periodically since June last year, leading diplomats to conclude that it would be a long time before a peaceful political alternative became plausible in the region.

Nicaragua said the US, with its "irresponsible and bellicose policies" was responsible for disrupting the Contadora meeting.

Mexico's leading daily newspaper *Excelsior* said in a leading article yesterday that it was unjustifiable for the meeting to have been called off. The Mexican press was unanimous that the US had wrecked the meeting.

European diplomats in the region said they believed the Reagan Administration put pressure on Costa Rica, Honduras and El Salvador to sabotage the meeting, a view confirmed in an American foreign policy

document leaked in Washington.

One Mexican daily, *La Jornada*, reflected a widespread view among Central American observers. "It is beyond doubt", said, "that the option of war continues in the hands of the United States which has demonstrated it can move pawns in Central America when the moment and US interests demand it."

● **SAN JOSÉ:** Dr Carlos Gutiérrez, Costa Rica's Foreign Minister, said: "We are not going to the meeting." He denied the three countries were quitting Contadora (Martha Honey writes).

He said delegations from the three would discuss the latest Contadora draft treaty and hoped to announce a joint document to put to the others.

Guatemala has refused to side with the conservative majority in the latest crisis which arose from a seemingly minor dispute between Costa Rica and Nicaragua.

It centres, on the case of a 23-year-old Nicaraguan law student, José Urbina Lara, who was given asylum in the Costa Rican Embassy in Managua last year. On Christmas Eve, he was shot and slightly wounded by an embassy guard as he apparently attempted to leave with his girlfriend. The youth was subsequently sentenced to five years for draft dodging and collaboration with guerrilla groups.

Costa Rica accused Nicaragua of violating embassy grounds and said it would withdraw from Contadora meetings until Señor Urbina Lara was allowed to go into exile. On Monday the Nicaraguan Foreign Minister, Father Miguel D'Escoto announced that the student would definitely not be freed.

# Soares gets new deputy in Lisbon reshuffle

From Martha de la Cal, Lisbon

Senhor Rui Machete, the newly-elected leader of the Social Democrats, the junior partner in the socialist-dominated Portuguese coalition, had been proposed by the Prime Minister, Dr Mario Soares, to fill the vacant position of Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Defence.

The vacancies follow the resignation two weeks ago of Senhor Carlos Mota Pinto as leader of the Social Democrats and his simultaneous withdrawal from the two key posts.

After being chosen as leader of the Social Democrats last weekend, Senhor Machete said his "main object is to relieve tension within his party and assure the stability of the coalition".

His party had been split into three bickering factions, unable to agree on a choice of candidate in the 1985 presidential elections.

### PORTUGUESE CABINET

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 Interior: Eduardo Ribeiro Pereira (PS)  
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 Justice: Mario Raposo (PSD)  
 Finance: Emílio Lopes (Independent)  
 Education: João de Deus Pinheiro (PSD)  
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 Health: António Maldonado Goneth (PS)  
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 Commerce and Tourism: Joaquim Faria de Amorim (PSD)  
 Culture: António Coimbra Martins (PS)  
 Public Works: João Rosado Correia (PS)  
 Quality of Life: Francisco Sousa Tavares (PSD)  
 Parliamentary Affairs: António de Almeida Santos (PS)  
 The Sea: Carlos Matos (PS)

Key: PS - Partido Socialista; PSD - Partido Social Democrático.

# Botha not budging on Mandela release

Johannesburg - President P. W. Botha said - Mr. Nelson Mandela, the imprisoned leader of the banned African National Congress, would have to stay in jail so long as he remained "committed to violence, sabotage and terrorism" (Michael Hornsby writes).

His offer of a conditional amnesty remained, South Africa's President said. Last Sunday, Mr. Mandela, in prison since 1962, refused to give any undertaking to renounce violence while the ANC was banned.

The negative response by both men is unlikely to stifle the growing demands on the Pretoria governments to open talks with the ANC.

# Britons cleared

Boston (Reuter) - Sitting lack of evidence, a federal judge ordered the acquittal of two Britons, John Harrison, age 45, and Barry Coger, 23, accused of trying to smuggle a shipment of marijuana into the US. Four other Britons remain on trial.

# Liner inferno

Madras (Reuter) - The death toll in a fire on an Indian cruise ship, the 17,226-tonne *Chidambaram*, rose to 18 as rescue workers searched debris looking for the missing. Survivors described a 16-hour battle to control the blaze.

# Belushi denial

Los Angeles - Cathy Smith, the singer, pleaded not guilty to the second degree murder in March, 1982, of the comedian, John Belushi. She pleaded not guilty to 13 counts of giving Belushi cocaine. The primary hearing was set for March 12.

# Reagan change

Bonn (Reuter) - President Reagan will not be in West Germany on May 8 for the 40th anniversary of VE Day as originally planned. His visit has been brought back to May 5 and 6. Strasbourg visit, page 9

# Parade leader

New York (Reuter) - New York's St Patrick's Day Parade next month will again be led by an IRA sympathizer, Mr Peter King, financial controller of Nassau County, chosen as grand marshal, regards the IRA as "a legitimate reaction to British oppression."

# Cairo hitch

Cairo (AP) - Sand storms closed Cairo airport to incoming flights yesterday. Visibility was cut to 500 yards. Flights taking off were not affected.



Valentine kiss: A warm embrace between President Reagan and his wife, Nancy, after he gave her a heart-shaped box of chocolates yesterday at Point Mugu naval air base, California.

# Thatcher focus on Star Wars

From Nicholas Ashford, Washington

The talks which Mrs Margaret Thatcher is to hold with President Reagan here on Wednesday will be crucial in helping to shape a common Nato strategy for the US-Soviet arms talks opening in Geneva on March 12.

She will focus on the President's Strategic Defence Initiative, known as "Star Wars", which has been attacked by the Soviet Union and which will form one of the three key elements in the negotiations.

Moscow has said it will insist on agreements in all three sets of talks - strategic weapons, medium-range missiles and space weapons - before agreeing to sign a new arms pact.

The US, on the other hand, wants to treat each set of talks independently and to sign separate accords. Britain and other European countries are concerned that agreement on medium-range weapons could be held hostage by Soviet insistence on reaching agree-

ment in the other two sets of talks.

They were initially wary of Star Wars fearing it could lead to a decoupling of Western Europe from the US, but they have been satisfied by recent American assurance that the programme, if implemented, would include protection of its Nato allies.

This was discussed when Mrs Thatcher visited here in December. Administration officials stressed that Star Wars is only a research programme and any decision to produce and deploy space weapons is years away. The President reassured Mrs Thatcher that before any deployment took place there would be negotiations with Moscow.

Mrs Thatcher is due here on Tuesday evening and on Wednesday she will become the first British Prime Minister since Churchill to address a joint meeting of Congress. She will have a working lunch at the White House and separate

meeting with leaders of the Senate and House of Representatives.

On Thursday she is to see Mr James Baker, Treasury Secretary, and Mr Paul Volcker, chairman of the Federal Reserve Board, before flying back to London.

She will be accompanied by Sir Geoffrey Howe, Foreign Secretary, and Mr Michael Heseltine, Defence Secretary, who will hold talks with their counterparts.

● **GENEVA:** Insistence by the Americans on going ahead with Star Wars would torpedo the Geneva negotiations, Mr Viktor Issraelyan, Russian delegate to the 40-nation UN Disarmament Conference, said (Alan McGregor writes).

He underlined, addressing a Press lunch, that last month's Shultz-Gromyko agreement had been for negotiations "on the entire complex of questions concerning nuclear and space arms in their inter-relationship". David Watt, page 16

# Eager Kasparov angry at chess delay

From Richard Owen, Moscow

Gary Kasparov, aged 21, the challenger in the Moscow world chess championship, is said to be angry with Señor Florencio Campomanes, president of the International Chess Federation (Fide), for having intervened to cancel Wednesday's crucial

game when Anatoly Karpov, the champion, was in a weak position.

Chess sources say Kasparov believes he could have continued his remarkable comeback from 0-5 to make the score 4-5 and possibly 5-5. The new champion will be the first who records six wins.

To abandon the match at this stage would be without precedent. Some sources suggest that the Soviet Chess Federation would prefer Karpov, a loyal and orthodox communist, to retain the crown rather than lose to the flamboyant and individualistic Kasparov.



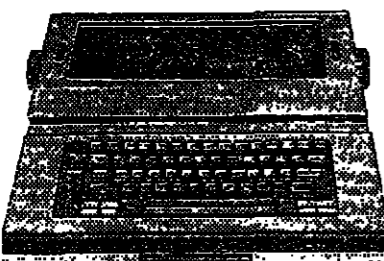
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### Israel's pullout from Lebanon

# Guerrilla war fuelled by Sidon's grim legacy

From Robert Fisk, Sidon

As the Israelis abandon Sidon, Husain Muhammad Haidar is one of the living legacies they will leave behind. He lies in the Rai hospital just south of the city, parts of his abdomen blasted away and three bullet wounds in his leg and arms. He is still in too much pain to talk more than a few words, but he tells his story simply.

He was working as a mechanic at a garage in the neighbouring village of Ghazieh a month ago when an Israeli patrol came down the road. The soldiers, he said, were firing their rifles to frighten off any guerrillas lying in wait for them. One burst of gunfire, Mr Haidar says, bit him across the body. He never saw any guerrillas; indeed, no ambush was reported in Ghazieh. But Mr Haidar has been in hospital ever since.

Dr Nabil Rai, no stranger to publicity since he is a leading figure in Sidon's "Popular Nasserite Movement", has reported 50 such patients in his private hospital alone in the past six months. Dozens of others, hit by Israeli gunfire, have been admitted to other Sidon hospitals in the past two years, most of them apparent victims of Israel's policy of "reconnaissance by fire".

This Israeli tactic, the American Marine commander in Beirut once bluntly described

as "unprofessional". It is certainly extremely brutal. It means that Israeli soldiers spray both sides of a road with automatic fire to frighten away potential ambushers. Inevitably, some of the bullets hit people - usually, it seems, innocent people.

One of the most recent victims, Dr Rai says, was a Palestinian picking fruit in an orchard with other workers, wounded when the Israel is opened fire through the trees. Yet another Lebanese man was reported wounded by Israeli rifle fire in central Sidon on Wednesday afternoon.

All this is some indication of why Israel had come to be hated in Sidon. But there are dead legacies here, too, the details of which are becoming clearer now that Israel's hold on the city has loosened and people feel freer to speak.

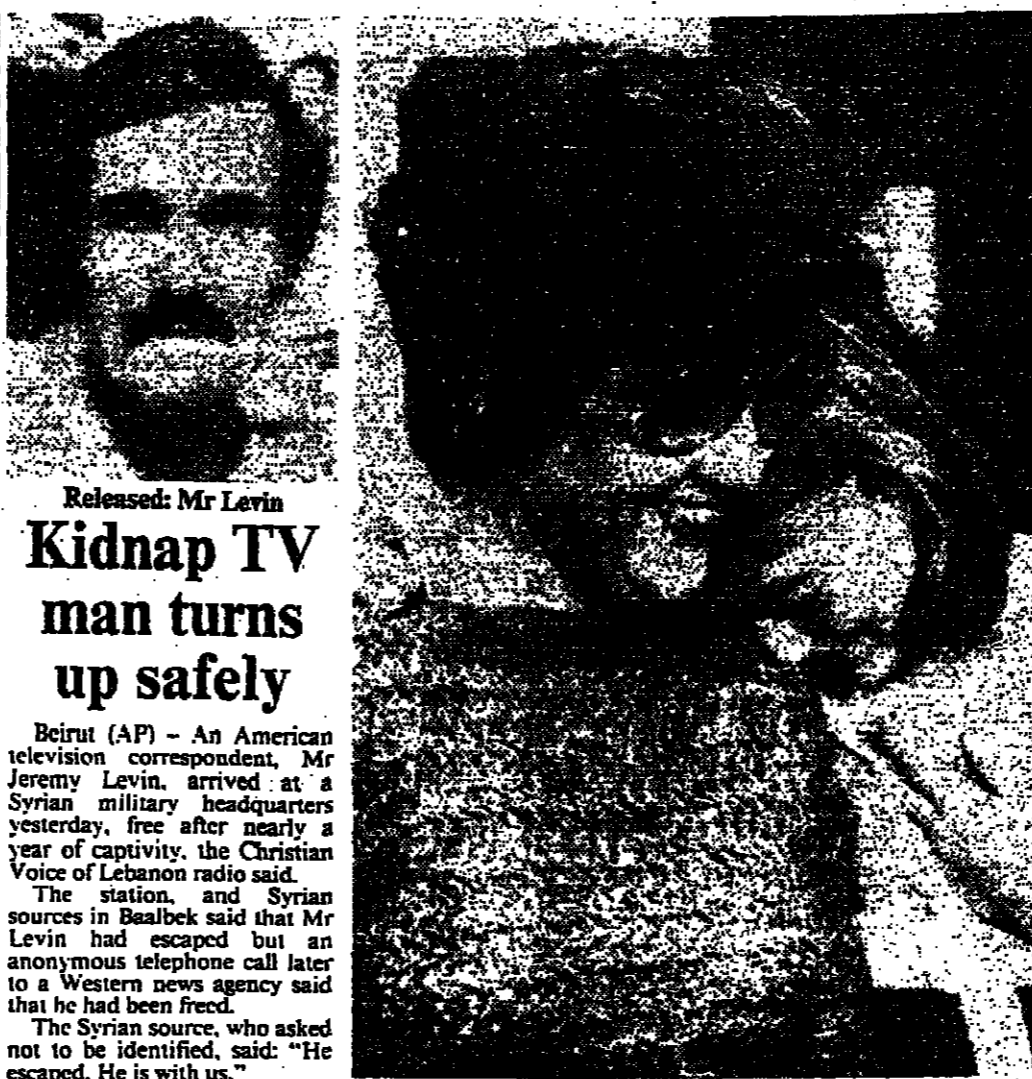
At the southern end of Riad Solh Street, there is a traffic junction, a well-kept lawn in the middle with palm trees round it. Today, it has become known as Martyrs' Square because up to 300 of the dead from Israel's 1982 air raid - Lebanese Muslims and Christians and Palestinians, most of them civilians - lie together beneath the lawn in a mass grave.

Yet another 125 - all civilians - are buried without any mark in the Islamic cemetery nearby.

They were all families living in the Jard apartment block in the Jezzine Road when an Israeli plane bombed the building in the early hours of June 7, 1982. Mahmud Khadra, the Lebanese civil defence director in southern Lebanon, says he found them all afterwards, roasted in the basement.

He makes no secret of the fact that the PLO, having at one stage agreed to keep their guns away from civilian areas, cruelly broke their word and opened up anti-aircraft fire from the street outside, which is probably why the Israelis bombed the building. Mr Khadra and his civil defence men collected in plastic bags the charred bones of the 125 people in the cellar. Many of the skulls belonged to children.

These things are being remembered here now with great bitterness. One man lost almost all his relatives in the Jard building: his wife, his four children, his sister and brother-in-law and their five children, and his mother all died there. In war, it will be said, these things happen. And the Lebanese are - or were - a pragmatic people. But the last two-and-a-half years in Sidon have produced enough pain and grief to go on fuelling the guerrilla war against Israel long after its soldiers have left this city.



## Released: Mr Levin Kidnap TV man turns up safely

Beirut (AP) - An American television correspondent, Mr Jeremy Levin, arrived at a Syrian military headquarters yesterday, free after nearly a year of captivity, the Christian Voice of Lebanon radio said.

The station, and Syrian sources in Baalbek said that Mr Levin had escaped but an anonymous telephone call later to a Western news agency said that he had been freed.

The Syrian source, who asked not to be identified, said: "He escaped. He is with us."

The Voice of Lebanon said that Mr Levin, aged 51, appeared at a Syrian headquarters in the eastern Lebanese city of Baalbek.

The report that Mr Levin had escaped and sought refuge in Baalbek could not immediately be confirmed by the Government (Our Correspondent writes).

at the time they feared he had been kidnapped.

The anonymous telephone caller claimed to represent Jihad Islami. He said that "The truth of the matter is that we released Levin

## Jordan and PLO agree on a joint peace team

Tunis (Reuter) - Jordan and the Palestine Liberation Organization have agreed to send a joint negotiating team "on an equal footing" to a future international peace conference on the Middle East, the Jordanian Prime Minister, Mr Ahmed Obaidat said yesterday.

PLO sources said the new accord envisaged less than an independent Palestinian state.

One source said the text called only for "self-determination within the framework of a Jordanian-Palestinian confederation", a suggestion contained by the Prime Minister, who said that the accord envisaged the establishment of an "Arab confederation" as soon as conditions allowed.

The peace conference proposed in the agreement is separate from the Middle East talks fixed for Vienna next week between the United States and the Soviet Union.

Mr Obaidat, whose comments were reported by the official Tunisian news agency TAP, was speaking on arrival from Algiers at the head of a ministerial team to brief Tunisian officials on the accord.

Hardline colleagues of the PLO leader, Mr Yasser Arafat, have been quick to condemn the agreement.

Mr Farouk Kaddoumi, the PLO's Foreign Minister, and Mr Salah Khalaf, the deputy leader of Mr Arafat's Fatah guerrilla group, insisted that the PLO set up an independent state and retain the sole right to represent the Palestinians at any peace talks.

Their statements were issued after Mr Arafat left his Tunis headquarters for Romania, which has often served as a channel of communications between the Arabs and Israel.

Mr Arafat has been under pressure to abandon the PLO's demand to represent the Palestinians, as both Israel and the United States refuse to deal with the organization. Hardliners have always insisted that any dilution of the PLO's right to represent the Palestinians would amount to liquidating the organization.

## Oppression of West Bank Arabs alleged

From Christopher Walker, Jerusalem

A report alleging widespread discrimination against Arabs in the Israeli-occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip was submitted yesterday to Mr Yitzhak Rabin, the Defence Minister, by members of the Civil Rights Movement, a left-wing opposition party with few deputies in Parliament.

The party was bitterly critical of the military authorities, whom it accused of systematically blocking Palestinian economic development. Ways of improving daily life including the setting up of a public board to oversee the implementation of laws.

The report noted that since 1967, no permission had been granted to West Bank Arabs to dig new water wells. In contrast, 20 deep-water sources had been located on the former Jordanian territory for Jewish settlers.

A similar contrast was found in the telephone service. It was disclosed that in the region south of Bethlehem, there were 7,000 telephone lines for Jews and only 260 for a much larger Arab population in the same district. The Arab town of Hebron, second largest in the West Bank, had 700 lines, while the Jewish settlement of Kiryat Arba overlooking it, had 4,000.

The report claimed that West Bank and Gaza Arabs working inside Israel (estimated at more than 50,000), received lower wages, enjoyed fewer holidays and received less compensation when sacked than Israelis of equal status. It was also alleged that Arabs were not entitled to sick leave.

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## The famine in Ethiopia Farmers' doubts hinder anti-erosion project

From Paul Vallely, Addis Ababa

For mile after mile on either side of the road which runs north from Addis Ababa and through the parched highlands of the Wollo and Tigre provinces, the eye is caught by seemingly endless network of ditches cut into the sides of the hills. It is as if contour lines were the invention of the farmer rather than of the cartographer.

Even on a long journey away from the main road and into the heart of the central plateau, this bonding is still visible in all directions.

It is the result of one of the most massive anti-soil erosion programmes undertaken anywhere in Africa. Over the past decade under a joint programme by the Ethiopian Government and the World Food Programme, tens of thousands of miles of ditches have been cut to catch rainwater as it runs off the hills and increase its seepage into the soil, thus stemming the erosion which has denuded the highlands of its fertile topsoil. It is also designed to increase the yield per hectare of the teff and sorghum crops which are the staple of the highland farmer.

But so far their effect seems to have been limited to checking erosion rather than raising yields. "It has become a problem," an agricultural economist said. "Farmers have to give up as much as 10 per cent of their productive land to this sort of bonding and terracing and if they see no return on the investment - in terms of increased yield they begin to think that the whole process is not worth the effort and stop bothering. There is some evidence that this has now begun to happen."

The next phase in the programme involves large-scale reforestation with 150 million seedlings, mainly of African olive trees, to be planted each year in the newly dug ditches. Where this has already been done, the World Food Programme experts claim surprisingly quick results. At the foot of the steep reforested slopes long-dry springs have started flowing again, a sign that some water is once more percolating into the ground rather than running off the surface.

Soil erosion has been a constant factor in the country for centuries. The ancient fertility of the Nile Valley in Egypt has always depended upon the good soil washed down from the Ethiopian highlands. But in recent decades the process has intensified.

In the feudal times before the revolution, landlords left much of their land fallow to keep rent and crop prices high. The result was that the growing population of peasants was forced to cultivate increasingly steeper hillsides for its own use. The steeper the slope, the quicker the erosion and the sooner the peasants were forced into clearing even more marginal land.

## Mountain airdrops begin

By Our Foreign Staff

Daily airdrops of grain to Ethiopian peasants in remote mountain areas began this week after prolonged negotiations between the Government and United Nations officials.

The operation involves Polish helicopters and transport planes from the British and West German air forces which drop the grain on wooden pallets from a height of 50ft. The Soviet Embassy has told the UN that Russian helicopters will become involved in two weeks.

Drops have been made this week in the Eilat area in northern Shea. Twenty tons can be dropped in a day, enough to supply a highland village for 30 days.

The Polish helicopters recognise the mountains for suitable dropping zones and food is then airdropped by the RAF and Luftwaffe. When the Russians enter the programme, their role will be to redistribute the dropped food to even more remote villages in their MEB helicopters.

## Bomb disposal hero takes on Pacific challenge Lange denies US cut flow of information

The Army officer who last weekend disposed of a Second World War bomb, found in Sheffield, will on Monday lead a team flying to the Solomon Islands in the Pacific to clear unexploded ammunition (Rodney Cowton writes).

Captain Paddy Bowen and his team of 25 Royal Engineers will go to Guadalcanal, which was the scene of exceptionally heavy fighting during the Second World War.

The men will have eight weeks to clear an area to allow the runway of the only international airfield on the islands to be extended.

Wellington (Reuter) - The New Zealand Prime Minister Mr David Lange, said yesterday that defence intelligence had been received from Australia and the United States since Wellington rejected a US nuclear warship's visit.

"That's the position and it was checked again this morning," he said of information from his Lange allies.

Mr Lange had already denied a report in *Japan's Defence Weekly* that the US was withholding intelligence on Soviet activity in the Pacific because of the ban.



# Elite's hatred of Kim underlines problem facing Korean democracy

From David Watts, Seoul

"Kim Dae Jung will never be anything in my country." The speaker's face was screwed into an expression of disgust.

He was only a minor government official, but his opinion is shared by many in the elite. It is based not merely on dislike of a man who is trying to remove the government of President Chun Doo Hwan, but on visceral hatred.

The depth of that hatred is a measure of how difficult it is going to be for South Korea to build a functioning democracy on the foundation of the surprising new strength of the principal opposition party.

What is not in doubt is the popular support for Mr Kim shown by the estimated 15,000 people who walked out to the airport to greet him, despite the Government's attempts to discourage them, on his recent return after two years' self-exile in the US.

He exacerbated the elite's hatred by coming home with an escort of American Congressmen and a human rights activist who were not only ready to see South Korea in the worst possible light, but who have been accused of engineering a confrontation at the airport to prove how repressive the Government is.

Mr Kim Young Sam, his co-chairman in the Council for the Promotion of Democracy, is seen in a slightly better light, but the Government will be in no hurry to restore his freedom to organize against it.

But for democratic progress to be made, at least Mr Kim Young Sam must be given his freedom, and for international

considerations alone, Mr Kim Dae Jung will have to be given more freedom than he has now.

The problem is that though President Chun might allow him more leeway, there are plenty of men in uniform who believe Mr Kim's liberal views on free trade unions and unification are tantamount to a sell-out to North Korea.

The businessmen of the big *chaebol*, or corporations, agree wholeheartedly that the last thing they want is anyone to rock the boat. The last time that happened, when President Chun took power, economic growth virtually stopped.

But the election results have limited the President's options. Having started a process of gradual liberalization, it is hard to stop.

Even if the generals and some of his advisers say he must circumscribe the new opposition or even dissolve the Assembly after 12 months, as he is empowered to do, that can only bring a backlash both at home and abroad.

Either relations are going to solidify with the generals and the Blue House determined to keep the lid on, or they're going to have to accept it as a vote of no confidence, a Western diplomat said.

But if they accept the situation, they have to deal with these old-line politicians and they are not going to be easily manipulated. The Government is not going to have an easy time, but what can they do?

Much will depend on how the new opposition behaves once it gets into the Assembly and to what extent, if any, it is able to

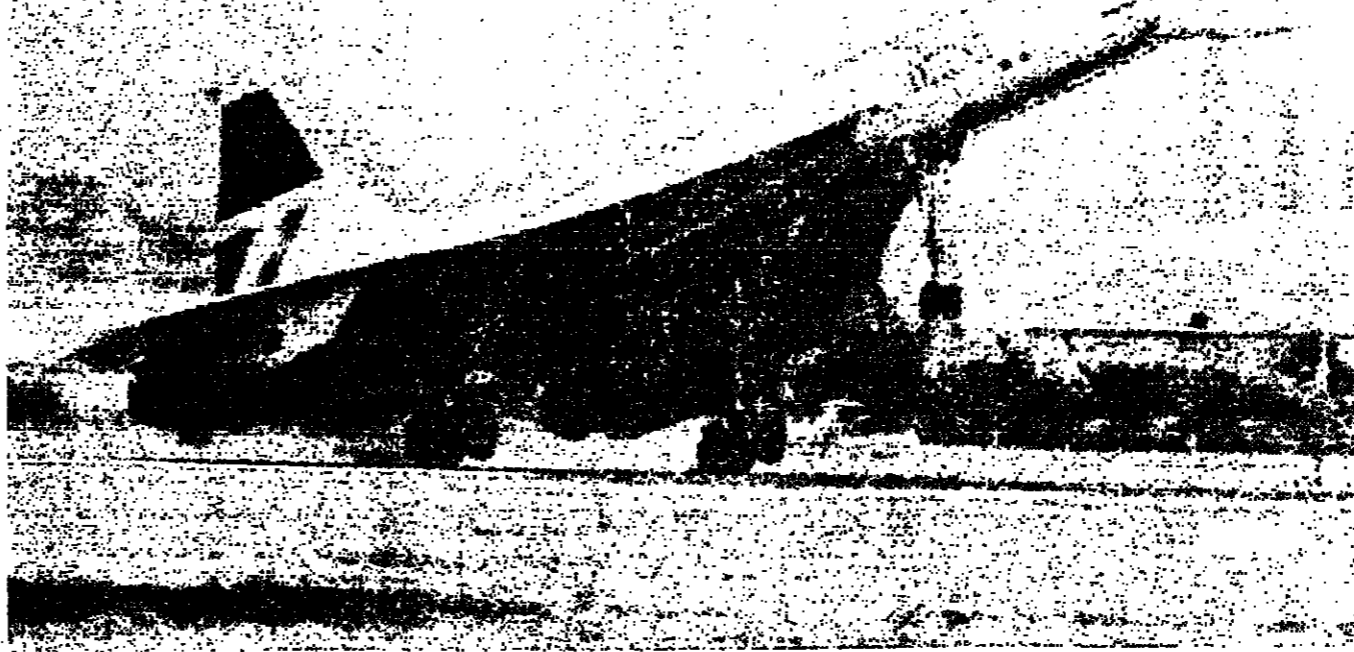
unify. The precedents are not good. Even in the aftermath of the Kwangju uprising in 1980, when hundreds of people were killed by troops, none of the leading political figures in the opposition were able to sacrifice personal ambition to allow an individual to step forward as a civilian president. So far there is no evidence that any key personalities have changed their attitude.

Relations with the United States have undergone a temporary strain over the return of Mr Kim and the treatment of the Congressmen, but when President Chun goes to Washington in April, he will be able to report on good progress towards democratization and, no doubt, President Reagan will remind him of the need to keep the process moving by standing down in 1988, as he has promised.

The effect on relations with North Korea is less clear. Mr Kim Dae Jung reiterates that the chances for stability and successful talks on reunification are enhanced by more democracy at home. But the North is always seeking to include obscure opposition figures from the South in discussions.

That the opposition is now more effective may convince it to wait a while in the hope that it will have a more amenable government with which to negotiate after 1988. In the meantime, the North has indicated that talks with the Red Cross on divided families will re-start shortly after the present American Team Spirit military exercises finish.

## Half a world away, faster than ever before



British Airways Concorde landing at Sydney yesterday to trim seven hours from the fastest time by a subsonic aircraft for the 10,600 mile flight from London. Concorde's first commercial flight to Sydney, part of which was

flown supersonic, took just 17 hours, 3 minutes and 45 seconds. The charter flight carried 91 passengers who will join a cruise on the Cunard liner Queen Elizabeth 2, which berthed in Sydney yesterday.

The flight had been heralded by a tiny Valentine advertisement in an otherwise blank page in London newspapers: "Darling Sydney, we will be breaking all records to be with you on the 14th. Love Concorde XX."

## Police question seven after Solidarity raid

Warsaw (AFP) - Seven former leaders of Solidarity, arrested in Gdansk, are being questioned on suspicion of taking part in an illegal meeting, the Polish Government spokesman said yesterday.

They were seized by police on Wednesday as they met with Mr Lech Walesa to discuss a February 28 nationwide 15-minute protest strike, seen as an attempt to reactivate the banned movement.

Mr Walesa, who was not arrested, said the group had been making plans for the strike against food-price increases in a flat near his own home when police arrived in several cars and took seven away.

They are Mr Adam Michnik, Mr Wladyslaw Frasyniuk, Mr Bogdan Lis, Mr Janusz Palubicki, Mr Stanislaw Handzlik, Mr Mariusz Wilk and Mr Jacek Merkel.

## VE-Day celebrations send MEPs into battle

From Ian Murray, Strasbourg

The European Parliament, harking in new-found importance with the announcement of President Reagan's visit on VE Day, yesterday set out to define how and why it should celebrate the 40th anniversary of the end of the war in Europe.

It provided an excuse for the right to denounce the "violation of human rights" by communism since Yalta; and for the left to warn against the insidious and continuing infiltration of fascism.

There was an attempt to word a resolution in a way which could be interpreted as a call for the reunification of Germany and another, equally unsuccessful, to shout down the democratically-elected member who might now be emperor of the Hapsburg Empire had it not been for two world wars.

According to Mr Glyn Ford, the Labour MEP for Manchester East who is chairman of the Parliament's committee of inquiry into the spread of fascism and racism, Europe was in the process of forgetting the suffering of the war and

According to Lord Bethell (Conservative, London North-West) and friend of Soviet dissidents, people were forget-

ting to speak out against the enslavement of eastern Europe: Hitler's camps had been emptied 40 years ago to fill those run by Stalin.

Resolutions were passed calling for "a tighter and more closely-knit union of the member states," with the hope that the European Community would be "a first step towards the unification of the European Continent."

Just how the Parliament will celebrate VE Day was left to its president. But with Mr Reagan the star attraction (to the fury of Italian radicals) the aim is to show that the Europe of the Ten has the influence needed to fight against war.

● MAFIA INQUIRY: Parliament yesterday called on the European Commission to investigate the Mafia in the Community. Members voted to set up an EEC inquiry, particularly in Sicily into the way in which Community money was diverted to the brotherhood.

One successful resolution was tabled by Mr James Provan (Conservative, North East Scotland) who demanded support for Italian Communists leading the fight for freedom from Mafia interference.

## Schmidt says US boom paid for by others

From Our Own Correspondent, Bonn

The boom of the past two years in the United States has been built on the money of other people, former Chancellor Helmut Schmidt said yesterday.

In a bitter attack on what he described as American complacency about its enormous budget deficit, Herr Schmidt accused the Reagan Administration of "happy disregard" of the debtor countries.

He said in a front-page article in the respected weekly *Die Zeit*, of which he is the joint publisher, that while President

Reagan optimistically called the American boom a second revolution, it was in fact a second time bomb, ticking like the problem of Latin America's debts.

In a former West German Chancellor has campaigned relentlessly against what he regards as the damaging fiscal policies in Washington. He urged leaders of the seven Western nations who hold tier economic summit here in May to help Washington reduce its budget deficit.

## Hitler's 'illegitimate son' dies

From Michael Binyon, Bonn

The mass-circulation newspaper, *Bild*, yesterday gave front-page prominence to the news that a 66-year old man claiming to be Hitler's illegitimate son had died in France.

M. Jean-Marie Loret, who died in San Quentin of a heart attack, maintained that his mother, Mme Charlotte Lobje, had a liaison with Hitler while he was serving on the Western Front in 1917. *Bild* said that Hitler used her as a model for a nude painting and seduced her. A son was born to her in March 1918 in Sebon-

court, and the birth register said the father was unknown. M. Loret maintained that his mother told him who his father was shortly before her death in 1951. He first made the claim public in 1977.

The report has caused little but scepticism here, especially in light of the Hitler diaries scandal. But one of Hitler's biographers, Professor Werner Maser, maintains the claim was true.

M. Loret, who had nine children, tried to change his name, without success, according to *Bild*. He was reported to have sought DM18 million in royalties on sales of Hitler's book *My Campaign*.

● FDP CALL: The Free Democrats in the Bonn coalition have issued fresh calls for legislation making it a punishable offence to maintain in public that the Nazis did not kill millions of Jews.

Herr Haas Engelhard, the FDP Minister of Justice, appealed to Parliament to pass the so-called "Auschwitz Lie" law. Leading article, page 17

## Now Japan threatens to leave Unesco

From Diana Geddes, Paris

The crisis within the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization has deepened with the announcement by Japan, the second biggest contributor to Unesco's budget, that it too may have to reconsider its membership unless further reforms are made.

Speaking at a special session of Unesco's 50-member executive board in Paris, Mr Takasaki Kagawa, the Japanese delegate, said that reforms made over the 15 months since the United States first gave notice of withdrawal had not been sufficient.

"Grave concern" about Unesco was growing in Japan, he said. Japan would be "compelled to reconsider" its relations with Unesco unless its reform proposals were implemented before the end of the year.

The withdrawal of the US from Unesco at the end of last year means that Japan now pays for 13.5 per cent of Unesco's new reduced budget. The Russians, now the largest contributors, pay for nearly 15 per cent. Britain, which has said it will withdraw at the end of this year unless further reforms are made contributes 6 per cent.

The US, which used to pay 25 per cent is steadfastly refusing its contribution for the current year, despite a threat from Mr Amadou M'bow, the Unesco Director-General, to take it to the International Court of Justice at The Hague. Mr M'bow announced earlier this week that the withdrawal of the American contribution meant that there was a shortfall of \$43 million (about £40 million) in the 1985 budget.

Of that, \$15 million had already been saved through economies in last year's budget, leaving \$28 million still to be found.

Most western countries, including Britain, are adamantly opposed to any increase in their contributions. But France, always anxious to present itself as a friend of the Third World, has surprised everyone by announcing that it will make an exceptional contribution of \$2 million.

Much lobbying is going on by western nations, including Japan, to get some kind of commitment to a zero growth budget for the next two-year period.



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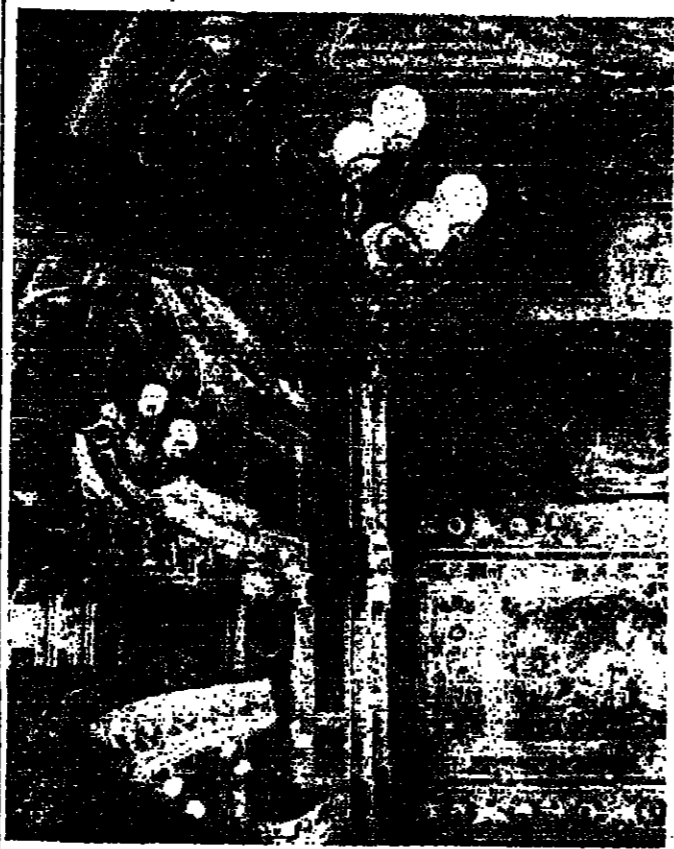
Della Couling reports on the ambitious renovation of Dresden's opera house

The phoenix of the opera

Dresden This week's reopening of Dresden's Semper opera house, 40 years after it was destroyed by the massive allied bombardment which flattened most of the city, was marked by a performance of Weber's Der Freischütz. It was the last opera heard in the old building before its destruction. Immediately after the war, most rebuilding was concentrated on housing the shell of the Semper Opera house, merely shored up to await better times and a decision on what kind of new opera house to build. There were two possibilities: either to build something completely modern, or in view of the opera house's position next to the restored Zwinger Palace (now the art gallery), to restore it to its original design by Gottfried Semper (1803-79).

which involved rediscovering many lost techniques, and with impressive results. The outer galleries, in the Genoese loggia style, create a light and airy impression, with light green mock-marble pillars, colourful, intricately vaulted ceilings, and illustrations over each window-arch from the best known German plays and operas, all unmistakably nineteenth-century. The auditorium, which seats 1,300, has been slightly widened, but is otherwise unchanged, down to the royal box, now the preserve of top party officials for gala occasions. The faithful replica of the chandelier which, according to legend, is responsible for the Semper Opera's marvellous acoustics, hangs from its old place in the centre. Faithful restoration ends at the foot-lights, however: the Dresden State Opera, after all those post-war years of wandering, mostly sharing premises with the main theatre company, now has what must be one of the best appointed theatres in the world. The stage itself is much deeper than the original and amply well equipped. Behind it are several rehearsal rooms - one the size of the stage - orchestral rehearsal rooms, and all the other features of a modern theatre. The permanent staff at the opera house number around 1,100, of whom 400 are artistic personnel. With seat prices ranging

from roughly £3 to £5, only 23 per cent of revenue will come from the box office. The remainder is provided by the State. The present intendant of the Dresden State Opera, Dr Gerd Schoenfelder, said he would be aiming at an ensemble style offering great variety and aimed mainly at the local population, who are traditionally keen and critical opera-goers. He also emphasized that there would be plenty of new ideas in both opera and ballet, and opportunities for guest artists to perform in Dresden. Wednesday's opening performance of Der Freischütz (followed yesterday by Rosenkavalier) was the culmination of the activities commemorating the bombing of Dresden. On such an emotional occasion almost any choice of opera would seem poignant, but Dr Schoenfelder chose particularly apt choice. It is very much Dresden's opera. In Joachim Herz's production it is emphasized that the action is taking place just after the Thirty Years War. In the first two acts the debris of war sticks up through the stage, and in the Wolfslucht scene the cannon and corpses rear, the stage heaves and the dead come to ghastly life. All a little too pointed, perhaps, but inevitable in a way. The staging as a whole had a lavishness about it one tends to associate with subsidized theatre.



Former glory: Semper Oper's restored auditorium

Television

Apert perhaps from Real Lives, the BBC's documentary strands have become softer and more intimate of late. Take Forty Minutes, in its first series which resembled the old Man Alive, a documentary about gigolos would have been a one-off. Now a majority of its films seem to dwell on quirky, titillating subjects like local male prostitutes and sea-side entertainers. Often what lies beneath the umbrella title could as easily be huddling under another series like Just Another Day. As often, it's damper under the umbrella than outside it. Last night's Forty Minutes (BBC2), was no exception. Love Story, a pappy celebration for St Valentine's Day, followed the course of true love for two young couples from the Midlands. Chris and Heidi had fallen for each other at school. They write poems which are read out over the airwaves by a pathetic local disc jockey. From his emerald studio he exhorts his listeners to touch their radios and spread "a wonderful aura of love over the West Midlands". Not surprisingly, Chris soon finds himself in competition with Billy Graham for Heidi's dumbstruck affection.

Mark and Christine are an older couple who meet at the Nottingham Palais. When Christine goes abroad, Mark reads us out a letter. "My cherub", he says threatening her with a 14-hour cuddle. "My little stick of honey-suckle", he says promising "uter bliss". This is the language of fantasy, of the love insinuated at by the pop songs which seep through the whole programme. At times, especially the soft filter, sequence at Mark's wedding, Love Story smacked of a commercial for some spiritual soap. Between the patronising lines of the invisible interviewer, you could almost hear the boast "this couple tried new Love and it gave their lives a real shine". More often, the sleekness of Alan Lewens's production - like that of the local DJ - ended up smothering the touching honesty of people in love, while heightening their inability to communicate, if verbally. "I know what I want to say", agonised one character, "but I can't say it." Nor, despite its public display of affection, could the programme.

Nicholas Shakespeare

Dance

Maedee Duprés Laban Centre

Before she took up dancing, Maedee Duprés intended a career in music. Perhaps that is why her solo dance programmes are always interesting musically as well as choreographically. She has joined with a musician, Christodoulos Georgiades, to present three notable modern scores in the new programme seen at Laban Centre on Wednesday. It now goes on tour, with further London performances at The Place on March 8 and 9. The oldest work given is John Cage's 43, which they treat as seriously as if deserves, that is, they make a joke of it but still get across the essential point that concentrating on silence for a given period makes you hear things you would otherwise have missed. The preparation and conclusion are as important as the main action (or should I say inaction?) with a variety of

relaxed, friendly activities to help get the audience's eyes and ears alert. Both the other pieces benefit from having the musician's activities visible as well as audible. Cage's Inlets (1977) is performed by applying a microphone to a tank of water and swirling some of the contents in shells of different shapes and sizes. It makes a gentle, attractive sound to which Duprés's constantly turning dance Confluence provides an entirely apt complement. The most demanding work begins the bill: Portraits, which Duprés has based on the zodiac inspiration of George Crumb's Makrokosmos II (1973). A mirrored top to the grand piano allows the audience to see Georgiades's hands reaching inside the instrument as well as on the keyboard, without distracting from the dance which sustains its interest through a variety of moods.

John Percival

Advertisement for the film 'HEIMAT' by Edgar Reitz. It features a black and white portrait of Marita Breuer. Text includes: 'It's not just a German film - all human life seems to be inside it... one man's brilliant creation... set to become the talk of Europe... DON'T MISS IT! Alexander Walker, THE STANDARD.' and 'A Film by EDGAR REITZ Starring MARITA BREUER as Maria.' It also lists showtimes and contact information for Lumière Cinema.

Cinema

History in the palm of your hand

Heimat (15) Lumière

Irreconcilable Differences (15) Leicester Square Theatre

Ordeal by Innocence (15) Classic Haymarket

The Blood of Dr Jekyll ICA Cinema

Gallons of printers' ink have already been spilled over Edgar Reitz's 16-hour epic Heimat, yet no words have caught the film's spirit and strengths so well as the simple catalogue of ingredients included in its publicity brochure. "Heimat", the paragraph informs us, "is about leaving and returning... about mothers and sons... about three eggs on the window sill... About kitchens and attics. About airplanes and chocolate. About the loaf of bread you hold up against your chest to slice. About pillows and chewing gum... About air-raids, hair-dos and bank loans..." The list could be extended to fill this entire page: the film is crammed to bursting point with the convincing documentation of daily life in Reitz's fictitious village of Schabbach in the Hunsrück district of South-West Germany, from 1919 to 1982. For older German audiences, the film must engender similar sensations to those experienced by the heroine's sister as they watch a Zarah Leander film in a local cinema. "Did you see that apron?" she



Marita Breuer: The dominant face of Heimat

and Heimat developed from a stockpile of everyday stories generally stifled or hidden by Germany's embarrassment over its Nazi past. So here we find Maria's ostentatious sister-in-law Lucie trembling with pride as Nazi big brother call at her villa (though they leave without a mouthful of food); we see Maria's cowardly brother Wilfried, a member of the SS, casually talking about Jews going "up the chimney" at an evening of social chit-chat, classical music and wine. Reitz presents the century's technological progress from a similar domestic perspective. Schabbach's fields, streets, businesses and homes are gradually infiltrated by radios, telephone wires, motorbikes, helicopters and telex messages; all generate a pointed scene, image, or line of dialogue. Throughout, we experience the awesome feeling of holding modern history in the palm of our hand. Reitz displays wonderful control over his settings and performers, though the repeated landscape shots sometimes seem like the hopeless knots on an enormous parcel that defies being tied with string. The alternations between black-and-white and colour photography cause problems, too. Reitz says the sudden bursts of colour are simply there for emphasis. There are some objects, like the ghastly memento mori jewelry, that clearly benefit from this, though eggs in a frying pan do not; overall, the device irritates. But in a film of such extreme length, we must expect flaws and longueurs; and no amount of suddenly colourful fried eggs can detract from the sensitivity, the power and uniqueness of this vast human canvas. Heimat runs for a four-week season at the Lumière cinema

Little Eyolf Lyric, Hammersmith

"They are not all mothers", Ibsen wrote in his notes on Hedda Gabler, and the same goes for Rita Allmers in Little Eyolf. Michael Meyer, the translator of this superbly cast Hammersmith production, has described Rita as a "Hedda with money and a child", added to which she is now so poity about her scholar husband that she violently resents the little boy who stands as a "living wall" between them. The least performed of late Ibsen plays, Little Eyolf is best known only by repute as a study of guilt and recrimination between a couple who let their baby fall off a table while they were making love, and were subsequently punished by his drowning in a fjord. Newcomers to the piece should be informed that Eyolf makes the briefest of appearance and is out of the story before he has the chance to exert any sentimental claim; and that the real action begins only when the shock of his death, and the nightmare line "The crutch is floating", has struck Allmers and Rita. What follows is the most concentrated unravelling of "life-lies" to be found anywhere in Ibsen. Allmers's literary mission turns out to be a piece of self-deception; Rita's hostility evaporates once its object is removed; Allmers's love for the boy masks an incestuous

attachment to his sister Asta. And there is the crowning contradiction that he has spent years over a book on Human Responsibility while ignoring the poor on his doorstep and living domestically cocooned with a ferociously possessive wife. The difficulties of the play lie in its densely packed and evasive style, which simultaneously can have the effect of obliterating dramatic contours and presenting the principals as egoistic monsters. Both obstacles are largely overcome in Clare Davidson's production, which is a model of lucid selective emphasis and which transmits the full lacerating pain of the characters' journey, of self-discovery without the least surrender to rhetoric. Diana Rigg and Ronald Pickup explode one old myth by proving the central couple to be characters of equal weight. Miss Rigg lets the lines do the work of jealousy for her, and shows a creature steadily evolving through a low-keyed, stoical performance, periodically touched with derision, horror, and awakening generosity. Mr Pickup, by contrast, shows an apparently benevolent figure bursting into extreme cruelty and near-derangement under the pressure of remorse. Both performances, and Cheryl Campbell's microscopically sensitive Asta, abundantly confirm the play's obsessive references to the possibility of human change.

Irving Wardle

Advertisement for the film 'THE KILLING FIELDS' by Roland Joffe. It features a black and white image of a soldier. Text includes: '7 ACADEMY AWARD NOMINATIONS 13 BRITISH ACADEMY AWARD NOMINATIONS BEST PICTURE' and 'NOW SHOWING WEST END'. It lists various cinema locations and showtimes.

Advertisement for 'LONDON ARTS CHOICE' featuring various films and events. It includes details for 'DRILL HALL', 'BANKSIDE GALLERY', and 'ROYAL SOCIETY OF PAINTER-ETCHERS & ENGRAVERS'. It also mentions 'DAVID BAND' and 'THE ROYAL SOCIETY OF PAINTER-ETCHERS & ENGRAVERS'.

Advertisement for 'BOROWCZYK'S DR. JEKYLL' at ICA Cinema. It features a black and white image of a man. Text includes: 'A FILM OF STRANGE AND OUTRAGEOUS BEAUTY WHICH SEEMS TO EMANATE FROM THAT PLACE WHERE OUR FEARS ARE ALSO DESIRES' and 'THE UNCUT VERSION ICA CINEMA'.

Advertisement for 'The Shooting Party' by Geoffrey Beebe. It features a black and white image of a man in a hat. Text includes: '"A BRILLIANT FILM" SUPERB "an enormous delight" will rank among his finest performances "absolutely marvellous"'. It also lists the cast and production details.

Advertisement for 'THE NERD' by Alwynn Theatre. It features a black and white image of a man. Text includes: '"ROMAN ATKINSON IS A FUNNY MAN!" "RIB-SHATTERINGLY FUNNY" "A Wonderful display of GROTESQUE COMEDY" "HILARIOUS"'. It also lists showtimes and ticket information.

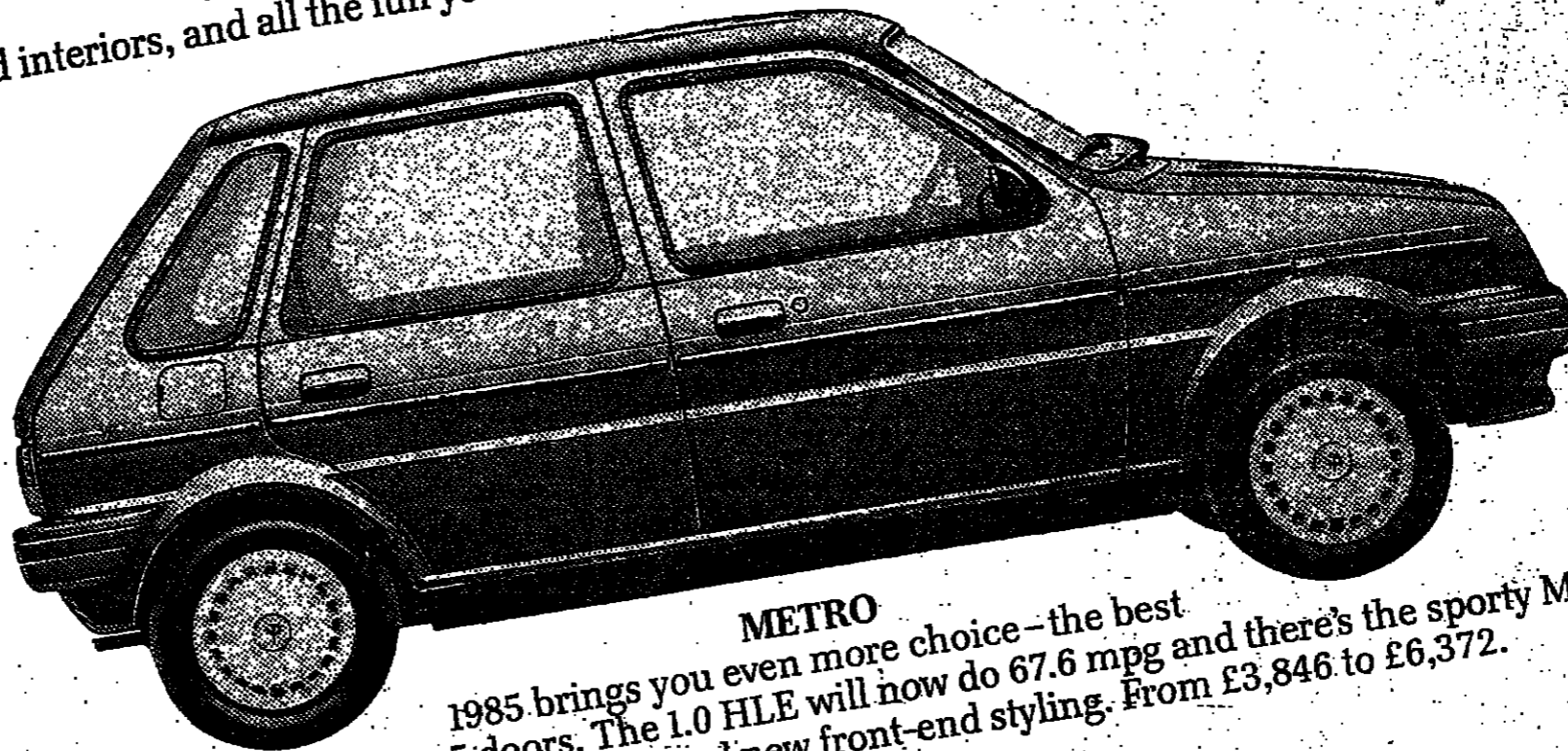
Advertisement for 'KAWAI PIANOS'. It features a black and white image of a piano. Text includes: 'Japan's leading manufacturer of fine pianos for 50 years. For the name of your nearest stockist phone 01-830 9253'.

AUSTIN ROVER

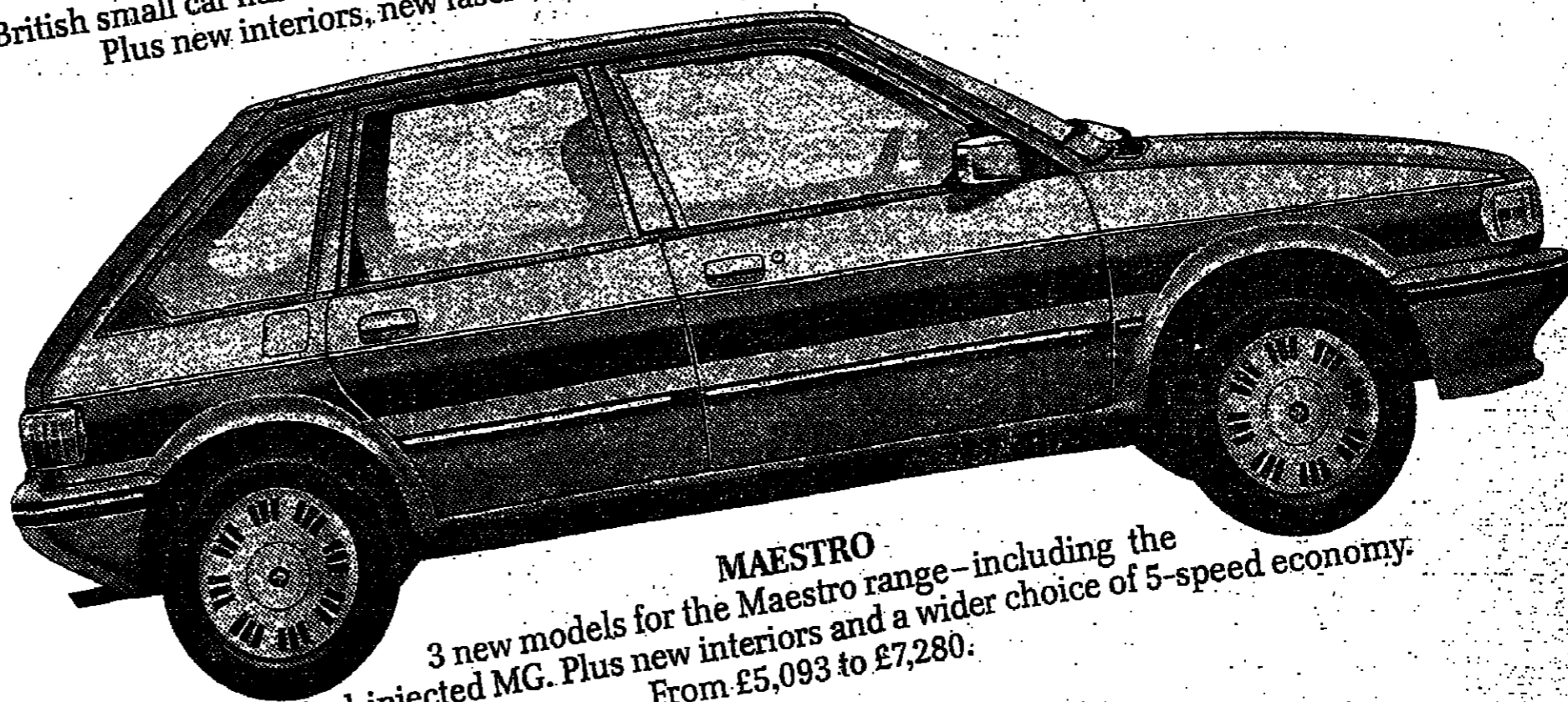
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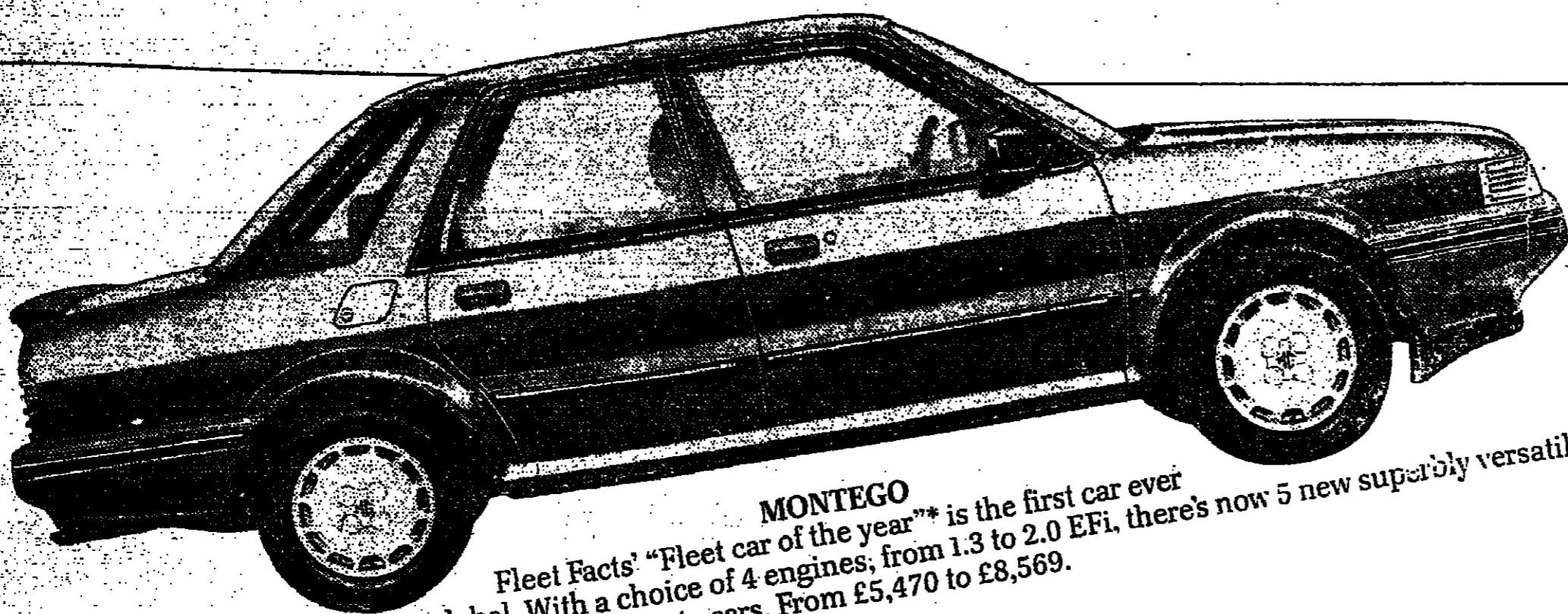
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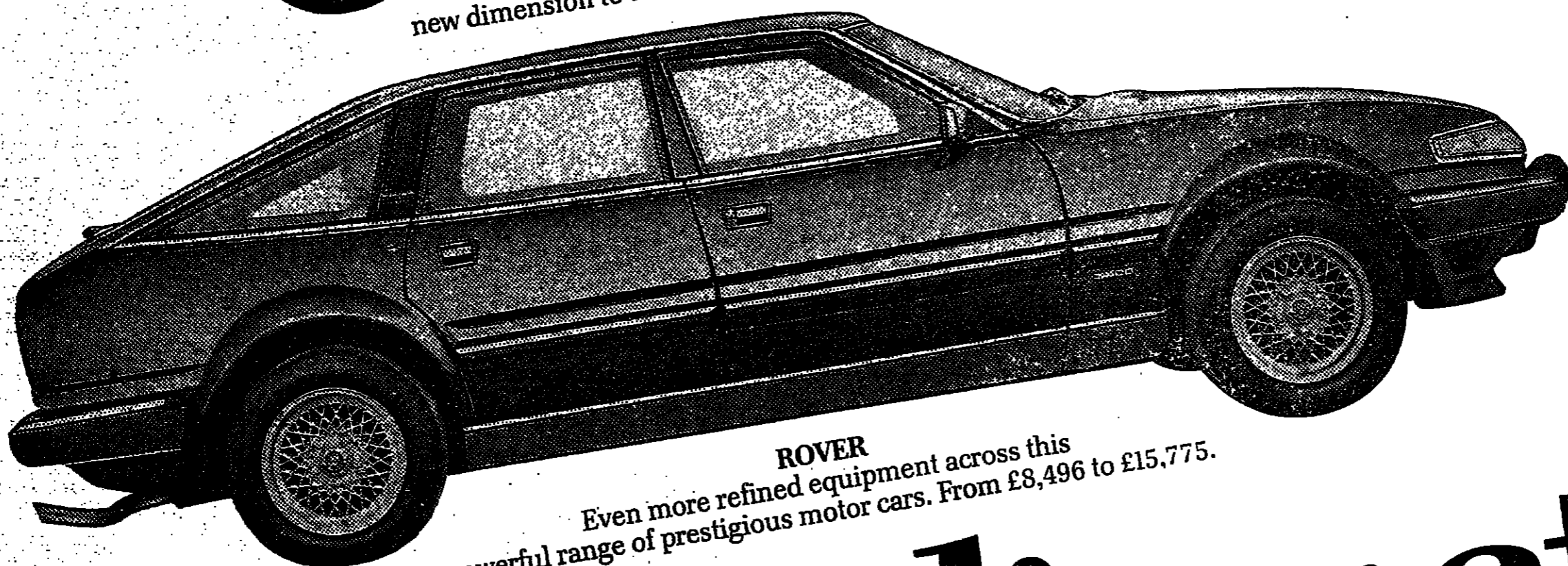
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SPECTRUM

Old Master or masterly pastiche?

The Getty Museum has just paid a reputed \$7 million for a newly discovered painting. But its authenticity has been challenged.

Geraldine Norman, Sale Room Correspondent, charts the dispute

It is a contest of David and Goliath. Mr Alain Tarica, 41, a French art dealer who lives in New York, has challenged the art establishment by claiming that the latest purchase made by the Getty Museum in Malibu, California, is a forgery. It is an "Annunciation" thought to date from the 1450s and to be the work of Dieric Bouts; it is reputed to have cost them \$7 million. The painting, hitherto unknown, was discovered in a European collection by Derek Johns, a London dealer, and the sale was handled by a consortium of the world's leading Old Master dealers.

Mr Tarica describes the painting as a banal pastiche, begun by one hand and completed by another. It combines elements from two paintings, both Annunciations ascribed to Bouts, he says, using one for the Angel and left hand side, the other for the Virgin and architectural setting. He suggests that the first, very able forger, gave up when he found that the figures on each side of the painting were not in scale with each other. The second forger finished the painting introducing a lot of red drapery in the middle to cover up the problems.

He suggests that the picture was created within the last 50 years or so, maybe by trained restorers but certainly by people with a knowledge of 15th-century materials and techniques.

The expertise required for such deception would be extraordinary. The Getty's conservation experts have begun to study the painting and point out that the cloth on which the picture was painted is brittle with age and apparently identical to the cloth used in other paintings of the period. The pigments are also characteristic and include lead tin yellow which went out of general use in 1600. Mr Tarica's forgers, if they exist, have done their homework.

The Annunciation is one of three paintings ascribed to Bouts discovered by Derek Johns, who refuses adamantly to reveal the origin of any one of them. His sale in America was handled by Eugene Thaw, a leading New York dealer in Old Masters. He sold it first to Mr Ronald Lauder, the son of Estée Lauder of cosmetics fame.

In September Mr Lauder asked his friend and adviser Alain Tarica to go round to Thaw's and look at the picture. Mr Tarica instantly pronounced it a forgery and the battle was joined. Mr Thaw had arranged for the painting to go on loan to the Metropolitan Museum in New York. "The cost of insurance was very high when I had it at my place," he explains.

Sir John Pope-Hennessy, former director of both the Victoria and Albert Museum and the British Museum, is now consultant to the Metropolitan and describes the painting as "marvellous". John Brealey, their head of picture conservation, laughed at the forgery idea. "Your eyes can tell you how good it is, you don't need science," he says.

During the autumn of 1984 the picture became the talking point of the New York art world. Mr Lauder, however, found that he could not live with the doubt that Tarica had sown in his mind and returned the picture to Thaw.

Johns, Thaw and Artemis were the three dealers handling the sale of the painting and it was Mr Tim Bathurst of Artemis, based also in London, who rang the Getty's picture curator, Myron Laskin, at a Paris hotel last November to ask if the Getty was interested. The painting was flown to California before Christmas and the decision to buy it was taken in January.

Dieric Bouts was born in Haarlem around 1414 but worked in Louvain under the influence of Rogier van der Weyden and the Flemish school. One altarpiece in Louvain and a pair of pictures in Brussels can be confidently ascribed to him - all other attributions are informed guesses by scholars.

Nearly all 15th century pictures that have survived are painted on panel. The Getty's Annunciation is in tempera on cloth. Contemporary documents prove that many such works were painted - Rogier's were especially admired - but only about a dozen have survived.

Until 1980 only one such painting in good condition was known, the Entombment ascribed to Dieric Bouts in the London National Gallery. It was bought in Milan in 1860 by Sir Charles Eastlake, the artist-director of the National Gallery who pioneered the return to fashion of early Italian and Flemish paintings - literally pre-Raphael.

Eastlake kept a daily journal and records being told in Milan of four paintings on cloth attributed to Lucas van Leyden. One was the Entombment, now ascribed to Bouts, which he bought for the National Gallery; another was an Adoration of the Magi which he saw and recorded as being in poor condition. He never saw the other two; on one visit he was told that they depicted the Crucifixion and the Presentation, on another they were reported as a Crucifixion and an Annunciation.

In 1972 a Crucifixion painting on cloth ascribed to Bouts, an over-restored ruin, was bought by the Royal Museum in Brussels. It is exactly twice the size of the Entombment and it has been suggested that they formed part of the same altarpiece, with the Crucifixion in the middle and two smaller paintings, one above the other, forming wings on either side.

The theory gained credence when a second painting on cloth in Bouts style, exactly the same size as the Entombment but depicting the Resurrection turned up out of the blue at Sotheby's in 1980.

Johns, then head of Sotheby's Old Master department, ascribed it to where it came from. The two paintings were put side by side in the National Gallery and appeared to use exactly the same pigments, cloth and technique - the only significant



The Getty "Annunciation" (top left) and suggested sources from which it could have been made up, the Virgin from the Prado Bouts (top right), the bed from the Metropolitan Rogier van der Weyden (bottom right) and the Angel from the Galbenkian Bouts (bottom left).

difference being that the colours in the Resurrection were almost unadulterated. The National Gallery decided to try to buy the newly discovered painting but they were resoundingly outbid by Norton Simon, a famous Californian collector with a private museum in Pasadena. Sotheby's pre-sale estimate was £200,000 but he ended up paying £1,870,000.

Last year Derek Johns, now an art dealer and partner in the London firm Harari and Johns, produced the Annunciation which the Getty has purchased. He has also located a fifth Bousian painting on cloth depicting the Adoration of the Magi. This is said to be in poor condition

totally repainted. It is now reputed to be in Switzerland but Johns says that it will never come on the market. Johns has traced the catalogue of an exhibition at the Brera in Milan in 1872 in which three early Flemish paintings in tempera on cloth were exhibited, a Resurrection belonging to Count Vittorio Melzi, an Adoration belonging to Paolo Gucciardi and an Annunciation belonging to Giuseppe Casanova. Johns believes these three exhibits to be the pictures that he has discovered. Tarica is by no means convinced that they are the original three paintings.

Derek Johns has refused to discuss the recent history of the painting, or those of the Resurrection and Adoration. Whether the three paintings that have recently come to light are the same as those recorded by Eastlake in 1860 and exhibited at the Brera in 1872 remains the big question. A handwritten label on the back of the Annunciation casts an extra doubt. It reads "Bolletta N.21 Sigr. Conte Diego Melzi". The present Count Diego Melzi

**THE GREAT DEBATE**

While rejecting his conclusion the Getty Museum has accepted Mr Tarica's criticisms in a very open-minded spirit and tried to find answers. Here they are:

**Accusation**  
To make paintings comprehensible to an illiterate public, Flemish painters provided the main figures with easily recognisable attributes. In an Annunciation you would expect Madonna lilies, a Dove descending, a sceptre in the Angel's hand or some other symbol. This is the only Flemish Annunciation in which no attributes of any kind are depicted.

**Answer**  
A forger would be especially careful not to depart from traditional iconography. Such originality points the other way. A desire to simplify is anyway characteristic of Bouts's work.

**Accusation**  
No 15th-century artist, familiar with the furnishings of his period, would have painted a bench with a cushion on it under the type of baldachin and curtains used to surround a bed. It appears that a later artist has combined the bed hangings copied from one painting with a bench from another without realising that he had depicted an impossible piece of furniture.

**Answer**  
Prof James Marrow of Berkeley cites one similar error in a 15th-century manuscript illumination.

**Accusation**  
The baldachin juts out as far as the Virgin on the left but beyond the Virgin on the right, a gross error of perspective impossible for a major master of the period.

**Answer**  
Bouts's grasp of architectural perspective at this period was not perfect.

**Accusation**  
The Angel appears to be pinching and pushing the curtain which is draped over his arm, an odd gesture not found in other depictions of the Annunciation. The painter presumably used the draped curtain to get out of painting the Angel's hand - hands are well-known to be difficult.

**Answer**  
The gesture probably has some symbolic meaning which could be revealed by further research.

**Accusation**  
Shadows, cross-hatching and outlines in tiles in the floor appear to have been drawn on top of the paint with some kind of black crayon or pencil. To draw on top of paint in this way is unheard of.

**Answer**  
Metal point underdrawing shows through. (No underdrawing is visible in the National Gallery Entombment because the paint is too thick.) Moreover, John Brealey confirms: "The shadow areas are indicated by extremely fine parallel hatching in brush on the surface."

**Accusation**  
The overall tone of the colours in the National Gallery Entombment is pearly grey. This fading is characteristic of the few known paintings in tempera on cloth, as it is for frescoes painted in tempera. With much brighter colours of the Annunciation and Resurrection the painter is erroneously imitating the bright tones of the 15th-century panel paintings.

**Answer**  
The Entombment has faded so much more than the Annunciation or Resurrection because it has hung under a skylight at the National Gallery for over 100 years and the sunlight has faded the pigments. (Eastlake reported the greens already faded in 1860.)

Whitehall jargon, can "put a polish on a difficult case." This is the quality that recommended Mr Heiser. He's forthright. He's not afraid to tell them it won't work, but if they so decide he will make damn sure the troops go into battle.

Mr Heiser has eight years in the top job at Environment, a long time by the usual standards. His predecessors have been rather dour managers concerned before everything to keep the machinery ticking.

The Heiser regime is likely to rebuild the top staff echelons at the department then focus on one or two of the hot policy areas. It is inconceivable that councils won't be one of them.

If Mrs Thatcher went to go for the grand slam on municipal affairs, or some tremendous reorganization (direct rule all round?), she has her man in place.

**David Walker**

### Tomorrow

START THE WEEKEND WITH THE PAPER THAT INFORMS, STIMULATES, AMUSES AND PROVOKES

**Portfolio £62,000 to be won**

**Memory games:** Thrills and stunts from the Sporting Thirties

**Ox tales:** Times guide to the Chinese New Year

**Egyptian idyll:** From monastery garden to motorway madness

**Cashing in:** Why it is easier to get a mortgage

PLUS: News from home and abroad; review of new videos; the revival of interest in the Fifties; taking the children to the theatre; Bridge, Gardening, Chess and the Prize Concise Crossword.

Can you always get your copy of The Times?

Dear Newsagent, please deliver/save me a copy of The Times

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### Mrs Thatcher's self-made mandarin



Terence Heiser, a shining example of her type of Civil Servant.

Mr Heiser was not plucked from obscurity. A decade ago when he was private secretary to Tony Crosland, departmental soothsayers put him among the half a dozen most likely to succeed. But his meteoric rise since 1979 to gain the top job in

Heiser's career, from the old Ministry of Housing and Local Government into the Department of the Environment, went according to the book, and some of his colleagues think he has made good use of the cover story that he came up the hard way.

Be that as it may, like others among Mrs Thatcher's men he is entirely self-made and has never relied on establishment connections or school ties.

Having specialized in housing, Mr Heiser was head-hunted to work in Tony Crosland's private office. "He studied Croslandism", says a colleague of those days, "then he studied Thatcherism". Heiser was a perfect private secretary, a courtier who while never afraid to argue back carried out ministerial edicts to the letter.

### CONCISE CROSSWORD (No 571)

ACROSS

- Aim (6)
- Scurry (6)
- Sea-flooded valley (3)
- Settling (6)
- Lowest peer's domain (6)
- Moan (4)
- Reggio region (8)
- Alter (6)
- Wild (6)
- Naples region (8)
- Neat (4)
- Diagonal chess piece (6)
- Young cow (6)
- Before (3)
- Manoeuvring room (6)
- Savour to fill (6)

DOWN

- Standpoint (5)
- Herakid eagle/lion (7)
- Golden syrup (7)
- Noisy confusion (5)
- Brush hard (5)
- Desire (7)
- Ottoman commander (3)
- Biologically clear (7)
- Portuguese Indian resort (3)
- Good looker (7)
- Sulphuric acid (7)
- Scornful exclamation (5)
- SWIRL (5)
- Wine residue (5)

SOLUTION TO No 570

ACROSS: 8 Accommodation 9 LCC 10 Hypocrite 11 Wiper 13 Rickets 16 Floreat 19 Ridge 22 Ashkenazi 24 Mac 25 Hydrocephalus

DOWN: 1 Callow 2 loecap 3 Amphoras 4 Cooper 5 Talc 6 Simile 7 Unless 12 Ill 14 Corniche 15 Tug 16 Flashy 17 Oxhide 18 Travel 20 Dimple 21 Excess 23 Eyot

### TAUT WITH PAIN AND PASSION...

Robert Perrin

# NOON DAY

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THE TIMES DIARY

Abridged version

Charles Osborne, little-loved Arts Council literature director, left for an Australian holiday yesterday...

The title for a British agriculture exhibition opening in Moscow next Tuesday has been changed at the last minute...

Dilemma

Ken Livingstone addresses a conference in Birmingham tomorrow organized by Target 4000...



'Mine was a size too big - but they changed it, of course'

Casualty list The diary's list of books and authors which, incredibly, have failed to be selected for the Book Marketing Council's new promotion...

Home comfort So much for the polyocracy's paperback Marxism. After Mrs Thatcher's rebuff by Oxford, Middlesex Polytechnic is considering awarding her an honorary degree...

Tough at the top When John Smith, the shadow trade minister, launches Labour's Jobs and Industry Campaign in Budget week...

Instant expert The thirst for publicity shown by Winchester's Tory MP John Browne is becoming indecent...

Bernard Levin: the way we live now

Detrimental conduct - by whom?

On March 16, 1984, I wrote a column that dealt with an ominous trend within the National Union of Journalists...



Frank Young

...the brief change of mind must have been influenced by the likelihood that for them to disobey such proceedings could lead to their expulsion from the union...

I then went on to discuss another example of the drive for left-wing censorship of the union's members: the case of Mr Ronald Spark of The Sun...

The last example of NUJ censorship I discussed is the one which has prompted me to return to the subject today. I referred first to an entertaining article by Mr Terry Lovell in The Sun...

Everyone knows that Arthur will make a comeback. I speak of the real King Arthur, monarch of Camelot, rex quondam rexque futurus...

Five hundred years ago Sir Thomas Malory, a previously respected source, had left no doubt about the wizard's demise...

During the following centuries, Keith Thomas tells us in his authoritative Religion and the Decline of Magic...

When Tennyson came to review the evidence for the benefit of Victorian empire builders, in his Idylls of the King...

Indeed there has always been a second, and more radical, tradition of commentators who suggested from the beginning that Merlin's

sniffing out and attempting to silence views which do not please them; they now invite anyone, outside the union as well as inside, to do a spot of do-it-yourself censorship...

formed the substance of a complaint to the NUJ by a Miss Barchini. She claimed that she was "upset" by the "glances" of a man reading the article opposite her in a train...

That Mike took four months to cook up her complaint is an interesting reflection on its authenticity, to say nothing of hers. But it meant that when it was tabled I was working abroad...

to the interests of the union", in that he had "encouraged discrimination on grounds of gender", and "reprimanded"

My article appeared, as I say, on March 16, 1984. Four months later, to the day, a complaint was laid against me for "conduct detrimental to the profession of journalism"

Mike (I hope I may be forgiven the familiarity - we're a matey bunch in the NUJ) was then my branch's Equality Officer (there's glory for you!); well, I am all for a spot of Equality, but I cannot help feeling that Mike carries it a trifle far...

That Mike took four months to cook up her complaint is an interesting reflection on its authenticity, to say nothing of hers. But it meant that when it was tabled I was working abroad...

The once and future force: Richard Holmes on the enduring magic of Merlin

Wizard of Id who still lives in us all



At Merlin's feet the wily Vivien lay - but did she succeed in shutting him up behind a rock? The fateful encounter as seen by Doré

departure was merely temporary. Merlin, like a true wizard, was more than met the eye. He was not only King Arthur's counsellor and eminent grail hero...

It is the resurgence and return of this poetical and irrepressible Merlin, which I think we have witnessed in many forms during recent years. In popular literature we find him eccentric, donnish and kindly...

Correction The article on the attempted kidnapping of Mr Umaru Dikko (this page yesterday) should have indicated that Major Mohammed Yusufu decided to reveal details of Nigeria's role in the attempt.

of the branch to which the member complained of belongs. My own branch is now firmly controlled by the far left, and I felt that I could therefore look forward to the kind of justice that used to be dispensed by that nice Mr Vyshinsky...

Nor was I disappointed: having arranged a notorious enemy of the people and capitalist-roader, they proceeded to break their own rules wholesale. For instance, the rules insist that... no action shall be taken against any member unless that member has been given an opportunity to defend himself...

The purpose of the branch hearing is only to determine whether there is a prima-facie case to go before the union's national executive, the only body that can decide whether a member has broken the rules...

The rules in question are part of the union's 'Code of Conduct', a document of which a journalists' union should be ashamed. It is partly superfluous ('A journalist shall protect confidential sources of information')...

Anyway, when I discovered that these shenanigans had taken place together with their outcome, I made my own mistake. I should have gone straight to the courts for a declaration that the decision was a nullity...

(To be concluded)

David Watt

Wishful thinking on a star

The Reagan Administration's campaign to "sell" the Strategic Defence (or "Star Wars") Initiative is now in full swing and hardly a day passes without some enthusiastic new pronouncement from the president or the secretary of defence...

Mr Caspar Weinberger's recent trip to Europe has chiefly been devoted to the task of converting sceptical European governments and public, or at least to shut them up and stop them from spoiling the president's efforts to persuade American public opinion...

In spite of this propaganda barrage I remain unconvinced. The whole enterprise still seems a dangerous aberration as well as an almost criminal diversion of vast resources from far more urgent strategic priorities...

Reagan's main object was to deal in the politician's instinctive fashion with the problem of rapidly dwindling public belief in nuclear deterrence. "Star Wars" is the offspring not of some Dr. Strangelove in the Pentagon who wants to scupper the Geneva arms talks...

The extent of Reagan's difficulty can be seen in an authoritative survey conducted in 1984 by the Public Agenda Foundation. This showed, among other things, that 96 per cent of Americans believe that "picking a fight with the Soviet Union is too dangerous in a nuclear world"...

These reactions derive ultimately from the fact that the strength of the Russian arsenal and the loss of American strategic superiority have thoroughly sunk into the American public consciousness. Their implication is obvious. Unless American public opinion takes a far more sophisticated view than it has ever taken on any subject before...

This is bad enough from the administration's point of view, but it looks even worse in the context of recent East-West relations. When détente was in vogue the question whether deterrence was credible seemed academic...

Philip Howard

Frenchmen who saw the light

As a nation, they are proud, very pleased with themselves, particularly their language, and snobbish. They are addicted to bizarre and greasy foods. They are ambitious and restless busybodies. They are patriotic and chauvinistic. Above all they are invincibly convinced of their national superiority to all other nations and races...

The French, of course. Though it could just as easily be the racistist French view of the English, the *manches* across *la Manche*. The Frags and *les Pondings* are old friends and enemies. Francophiles and Anglophobes and vice versa, neighbours and strangers. This is not surprising because we are members of the same family. And we are about to celebrate the three hundredth anniversary of a remarkable connection in this special relationship...

In October 1685 Louis XIV signed the Revocation of the Edict of Nantes, depriving the Huguenots of their remaining right to freedom of worship in France. More than 200,000 of his most valuable and energetic citizens fled from persecution, impoverishing France and enriching the rest of the world...

The Huguenots became English worthies: Baillieu, Cazalet, Chenevis, De La Mare, Martineau, Layard, Mallebray, Romilly. Even those who did not make it into the Dictionary of National Biography established a tradition of hard work, high thinking, and orderly living. There is a famous engraving by Hogarth showing the Huguenots coming out of their church, contrasted with the drunk and disorderly indigenous English on the other side of the gutter...





P.O. Box 7, 200 Gray's Inn Road, London WC1X 8EZ. Telephone: 01-837 1234

BACKTRACKING ON THE DOLLAR

Mrs Thatcher's journey to Washington next week comes at a painful moment in the world's obstinately persistent exchange rate crisis. It was only last month that her Chancellor returned from the meeting of the "Group of Five" top finance ministers...

dollar strength to the feebleness of the European economies; an attitude which implies that the dollar is not overvalued at all, and that intervention would be positively misguided.

(as it did yesterday) largely through normal market reactions as speculators realised their profits. One explanation is that Washington has, for the past few weeks, been paralysed by an interregnum at the top of the United States Treasury...

ARE EMBRYOS EXPENDABLE?

Mr Enoch Powell's Bill addresses itself to the single most controversial matter inquired into by the Warnock committee on human fertilization and embryology, the creation and use of human embryos outside the womb.

a child to be born by a particular woman. Only the Secretary of State may authorize such a procedure, which would thus become the only form of medical treatment requiring prior notification and consent by public authority.

It subjects human life to the convenience of the laboratory. It is not to be denied that human life informs the embryo. But for the first days of the embryo's existence that life is without consciousness, without sentience, without movement, without articulation, without final individuation, without an independent basis of existence, and without rites of the church for its entrance or exit.

Human dignity and Warnock

From Sir Anthony Alment. When Sir, when it debates the Warnock report Parliament faces such crucial issues of human dignity as deserve to be considered entire rather than piecemeal. The committee was clearly influenced by a large volume of expert evidence.

Reasons for Britain's economic decline

From Professor Lord Kaldor, FBA, and Mr Terry Ward. Sir, Sir John Hoskyns, in his article of February 12, makes two major assertions. The first is that "there is growing evidence that low-tax economies grow fast and high-tax economies grow slowly".

cause of Britain's economic decline, namely the inefficiency of British industrial management. Yours faithfully, NICHOLAS KALDOR, TERRY WARD, University of Cambridge, Department of Applied Economics, Sidgwick Avenue, Cambridge, February 13.

Table A: Government receipts and expenditure in relation to economic growth rates. Table B: Social welfare expenditure as % of GDP in 1981.

Responsibilities of Civil Servants

From Mr Donald Hill. Sir, in this country the oath of allegiance is to the Monarch and not to the Government. The concept of constitutional monarchy certainly gives scope to the thought that Civil Servants, many of whose briefcases bear the royal cipher, owe a wider responsibility than solely to the Government of the day.

pletely the policies of the government of the day. It is true that our members are currently considering a draft code of ethics, but the premise on which it is based is that a Civil Servant's first loyalty is to Government ministers.

HATRED, HISTORY AND HOLOCAUST

"Did six million really die?" was the title of a pamphlet circulated some years ago in this country by an extreme right-wing political group. The presence of disinterested scientific inquiry behind such publications is generally pretty thin.

Incitement to racial hatred is now a crime in most civilized countries, and so it should be. West German law may indeed be deficient in this respect, and require tightening, since a landlord who refused to serve Turks was recently found not guilty of racial discrimination.

1981 to a suspended prison sentence and a heavy fine. His crime lay, however, in the accusation against the Jews rather than in the denial of the holocaust as such.

Link with Captain Cook

From Mr Martin Riley. Sir, Mr David Barker (February 6) refers to the future of the memorial to Captain Cook in the church of Great St Andrew, Cambridge, now that the church is closed.

Need for Trident II

From Vice-Admiral Sir James Jungius. Sir, Lord Lewin's article, "Why we need Trident" (February 6), seems to reveal some incomplete thinking which is uncharacteristic of him.

designed to take on the Soviet Union on our own. Lord Lewin admits that even with Trident our strategic deterrent would amount to "no more than a very small fraction" of the deterrent forces of the superpowers.

ON THIS DAY

FEBRUARY 15, 1867

The terrible famine of the 1840s in Ireland led to the emigration of large numbers of its people, in particular to the United States. There, embittered emigrants formed an organization - the Fenians - dedicated to secure the independence of Ireland by force.

THE FENIANS

(BY TELEGRAPH) FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT. DUBLIN, THURSDAY EVENING. There is a Fenian rising in Kerry. A Constabulary has been sent, and the army, also mounted, orderly, carrying despatches, has been shot, the rebels seizing his horse and arms.

Coping with waste

From Mr M. E. Ginniff. Sir, I wish to correct two inaccuracies in your article, "Coping with waste. 3 - deadly nuclear cargoes with nowhere to go" (February 6).

Official soup

From Mrs Peter Opie. Sir, I was pleased to see (letter, February 8) that the Army (that bastion of tradition) even as late as 1942 still appreciated the qualities of toast and water.

Brave face on it

From Mrs Elizabeth Burrows. Sir, "Oldies", "wrinklies" and "crumbles" should not despair (Mr Wolfe Keene, February 11).



FINANCE AND INDUSTRY

Executive Editor Kenneth Fleet

Room for compromise on cowboy directors

The Government is not going to accept the wrecking amendment to its Insolvency Bill passed in the House of Lords last month. This ruled out automatic disqualification of directors whose companies are compulsorily liquidated.

powder dry. Sir Michael has won the first battle and is waiting for BTR's second offensive. His people's army (Dunlop's battered 40,000 private shareholders) is apparently loyal and the creditor banks have withdrawn to high ground ready to come down in favour of the winning side.

How Dee 'broke' takeover code
The need for a revised takeover code, in preparation for longer than anyone cares to remember, has become more urgent.

Stakes rise in battle for Dunlop

A brief, outward calm has descended on the conflict between BTR, the aggressor, and Dunlop, a fallen power into which the energetic and irascible Sir Michael Edwards has breathed instant life since his arrival in November.

US 'losing ground' on trade

The American economy, often described as the engine of world growth, is losing its competitive edge in a wide range of industrial and high technology sectors which have declined dramatically over the past two decades, according to a new Presidential report.

IMF withholds payments to Brazil

The International Monetary Fund is to hold payment to Brazil because of its failure to meet domestic economic targets agreed with the IMF.

Spot market prices up sharply on renewal of BNOC subsidy

By Jonathan Davis, Business Correspondent

The price of North Sea oil on the spot market rose sharply yesterday after the Government's decision to continue subsidizing trading losses at the British National Oil Corporation in a further effort to help stabilize the fragile world oil market.

more grants to cover BNOC's losses in the first two months of this year. The corporation, which was bailed out with £45 million of taxpayers' funds last autumn, is estimated to have lost a further £40 million this year by being forced to sell most of its oil at a loss on the spot market.



BNOC's Ian Goskirk: subsidy secured

The committee said it had already received written evidence from the Foreign Office and the Treasury, and is hoping to question ministers or officials as well. At least one leading oil company is also expected to be asked to give evidence.

Merger hopes lift Fleet shares

By William Kay, City Editor

The shares of Fleet Holdings and Aitken Home Holdings moved ahead strongly on the stock market yesterday as a result of suggestions that the two companies may merge.

Fleet is the publishing group which owns the Daily and Sunday Express and Daily Star as well as a chain of provincial newspapers and the Morgan-Grampian magazine chain.

Banks face £10,000 SE fee

By Our City Editor

Banks and other outside bodies that join the proposed new traded currency options market on the London Stock Exchange may have to pay as much as £10,000 each for the special membership which is being considered.

Tax setback for unit trust groups

By Richard Thomson

Arbuthnot Securities, the unit trust management company lost its court case against the Inland Revenue yesterday in a surprise decision which carries profound implications for the whole unit trust industry.

Spending total up £942m

By David Smith, Economics Correspondent

The Treasury yesterday published its spring supplementary estimates for public expenditure, with additional provision sought for spending of £942 million.

Imperial rise

Tempus, page 23

Imperial Group increased pre-tax profits to £220.6 million from £195.3 million for the year to October 31. Turnover rose from £4,366.5 million to £4,593 million. The final dividend of 5.5p makes 8.5p for the year against 7.8p last time.

IN BRIEF

Pound up 80 points

The dollar ran into a bout of profit taking yesterday, allowing the pound to recover ground. Sterling gained 80 points to close \$1.940 in London. The sterling index gained 0.2 to 71.1.

Tricentrol issue

Tempus, page 23

Tricentrol is raising £45.3 million by a rights issue of 11 per cent convertible unsecured loan stock 1995/2005 on the basis of £1 of convertible stock for every two shares.

Grand Met up

Tempus, page 23

Grand Metropolitan, the leisure group, increased world sales to £1,441.9 million from £1,300.6 million for the first quarter to December 31. Its US subsidiary, Grand Met USA reported net earnings of \$21 million (£19 million) down from \$30.1 million.

BET petition

Tempus, page 23

British Electric Traction is serving a winding up petition against London Leisure and Arts Centres, the ultimate controlling company for Wembley Stadium, in an attempt to recover a £1 million loan.

THE COSTLIEST COMPUTER ERROR OF THEM ALL.



Buying the wrong computer. Don't think it doesn't happen. It does. Many's the company that has forked out thousands for System A.

Ernst & Whinney Accountants, Advisers, Consultants. Becket House, 1 Lambeth Palace Road, London SE1 7EU. Tel: 01-928 2000.

MARKET SUMMARY

Table with columns: STOCK MARKETS, MAIN PRICE CHANGES, CURRENCIES, INTEREST RATES. Includes data for FT-100, Nikkei Dow, Hang Seng, Amsterdam, Sydney, Frankfurt, London, and various interest rates.

WALL STREET

Table of stock market data including Dow Jones Industrial Average, S&P 500, and various sector indices.

Dow passes 1,300 level

New York (AP-Dow Jones) - Wall Street shares were little changed in early trading. The Dow Jones industrial average was up 2.76 points at 1300.68.

COMMODITIES

Table of commodity prices for various goods like oil, sugar, and metals.

APPOINTMENTS

TSI's video companies and Mr. Andrew Lawson-Tancred becomes managing director of the production division.

FOREIGN EXCHANGES

The dollars seemingly inexorable rise was checked yesterday on the foreign exchanges, with the US unit seeing falls against most trading currencies.

MONEY MARKETS AND GOLD

Money was tight throughout yesterday, though somewhat cheaper in the early stages than it has been of late.

LONDON FINANCIAL FUTURES

Table of London financial futures prices for various contracts.

INVESTMENT TRUSTS

Table of investment trusts with columns for name, price, and change.

FINANCIAL TRUSTS

Table of financial trusts with columns for name, price, and change.

STERLING SPOT AND FORWARD RATES

Table of sterling spot and forward rates for various currencies.

OTHER STERLING RATES

Table of other sterling rates for various currencies.

DOLLAR SPOT RATES

Table of dollar spot rates for various currencies.

AUTHORIZED UNIT TRUSTS

Table of authorized unit trusts with columns for name, bid, offer, and yield.

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THE TIMES Portfolio

From your Portfolio card check your eight price movements. Add them up to give you your overall total. Check this against the daily dividend figure published on this page. If it matches you have won outright or a share of the prize money stated. If you are a loser, follow the claim procedure on the back of your card. You must always have your card available when claiming.

Table with columns: No., Company, Price, Chg, Dividend, Yld, P/E. Lists various companies like BSA, Biffar, British Airways, etc.

Weekly Dividend table with columns: Day (Mon-Fri), Dividend amount.

BRITISH FUNDS table with columns: Fund Name, Price, Chg, Dividend, Yld, P/E.

SHORTS (Under Five Years) table with columns: Stock Name, Price, Chg, Dividend, Yld, P/E.

FIVE TO FIFTEEN YEARS table with columns: Stock Name, Price, Chg, Dividend, Yld, P/E.

OVER FIFTEEN YEARS table with columns: Stock Name, Price, Chg, Dividend, Yld, P/E.

BREWERIES table with columns: Company Name, Price, Chg, Dividend, Yld, P/E.

BANKS DISCOUNT table with columns: Bank Name, Price, Chg, Dividend, Yld, P/E.

STOCK EXCHANGE PRICES

Recovery continues

ACCOUNT DAYS: Dealings Began, Feb 11. Dealings End, Feb 22. Contango Day, Feb 25. Settlement Day, March 4. Forward bargains are permitted on two previous days.

BUILDING AND ROADS table with columns: Company Name, Price, Chg, Dividend, Yld, P/E.

FINANCE AND LAND table with columns: Company Name, Price, Chg, Dividend, Yld, P/E.

FOODS table with columns: Company Name, Price, Chg, Dividend, Yld, P/E.

CHEMICALS PLASTICS table with columns: Company Name, Price, Chg, Dividend, Yld, P/E.

CINEMAS AND TV table with columns: Company Name, Price, Chg, Dividend, Yld, P/E.

DRAPERY AND STORES table with columns: Company Name, Price, Chg, Dividend, Yld, P/E.

ELECTRICALS table with columns: Company Name, Price, Chg, Dividend, Yld, P/E.

Table with columns: Company Name, Price, Chg, Dividend, Yld, P/E.

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THE TIMES Portfolio DAILY DIVIDEND £4,000 Claims required for +31 points Claimants should ring 0254-53272

OIL table with columns: Company Name, Price, Chg, Dividend, Yld, P/E.

OVERSEAS TRADERS table with columns: Company Name, Price, Chg, Dividend, Yld, P/E.

PAPER, PRINTING, ADVERT table with columns: Company Name, Price, Chg, Dividend, Yld, P/E.

PROPERTY table with columns: Company Name, Price, Chg, Dividend, Yld, P/E.

Table with columns: Company Name, Price, Chg, Dividend, Yld, P/E.

SHIPPING table with columns: Company Name, Price, Chg, Dividend, Yld, P/E.

SHOES AND LEATHER table with columns: Company Name, Price, Chg, Dividend, Yld, P/E.

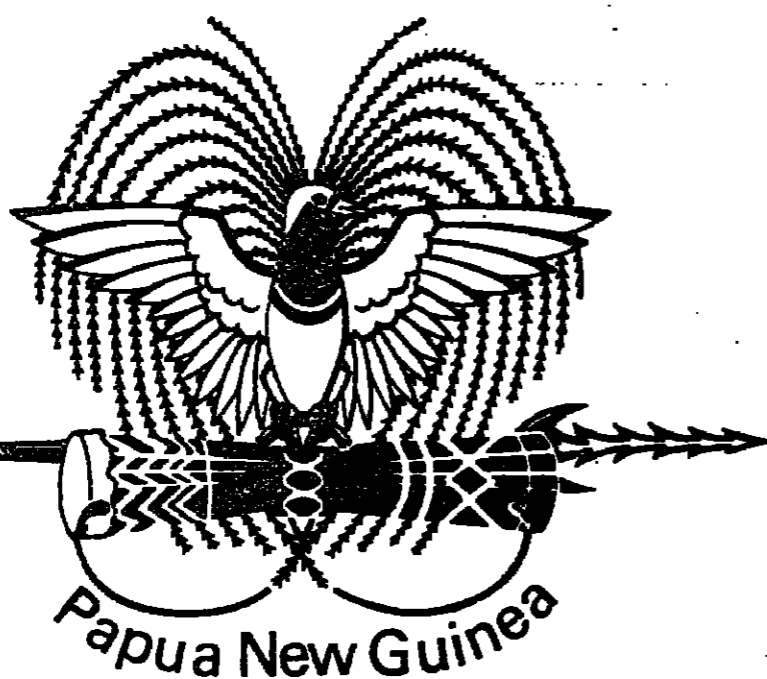
TEXTILES table with columns: Company Name, Price, Chg, Dividend, Yld, P/E.

TELECOMS table with columns: Company Name, Price, Chg, Dividend, Yld, P/E.

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Table with columns: Company Name, Price, Chg, Dividend, Yld, P/E.



# A Statement by the Prime Minister of Papua New Guinea on the closure of the Ok Tedi Gold and Copper Mine.

On 1st February 1985 the interim operating licence for the Ok Tedi Gold and Copper mine, in Papua New Guinea's Western Province, expired. Following the failure of the mine operator, Ok Tedi Mining Limited, to meet conditions specified in the interim licence, the Government of Papua New Guinea has not renewed that licence. The company has been given until 28th February to effect the closure of the mine in a safe and orderly manner.

The decision follows a breakdown in negotiations between the Government and its fellow shareholders in Ok Tedi Mining Limited; Broken Hill Proprietary Limited of Australia, Amoco Minerals of America and a West German consortium made up of Metallgesellschaft A.G., Degussa A.G. and D.E.G.

The negotiations were held in order to obtain a commitment from the company to continue the project along the lines specified in the contract signed by the company and the Government in 1980. The basis of this contract was the extraction of gold ore and subsequently the development of a copper mine with an estimated life span of twenty-five years.

Every indication is that the company intends to develop only the gold resource and is no longer committed to proceeding with the copper mining project. This is apparent from its failure to comply with specific contract conditions for the construction of:

- (a) A permanent tailings dam
- (b) A hydro-power scheme
- (c) A copper processing facility

Compliance with all of these conditions is necessary for the development of a long term copper mine.

The company argues that the price of copper has fallen and that as a result the development of the copper resource is no longer economic. The Government rejects this argument. Copper prices are cyclical and the current low price cannot be taken as a guide to investing in a mine with a twenty-five year life. Furthermore, as the shareholders have stated publicly, Ok Tedi is a "World Class" resource due to the gold contained in the copper ore.

The Government acknowledges that Ok Tedi is in a remote area and that it is consequently difficult to develop. For this reason it has been tolerant of previous failures to meet deadlines for various developments and has re-negotiated several aspects of the contract. In order to assist with the development of the infrastructure necessary for the development of the copper resource, the Government has agreed to virtually forego any revenues, including direct taxation, during the gold mining period.

At all times the Government has made every effort to see the company's point of view and assist wherever possible. In the course of the recent negotiations it has offered the company a two year breathing-space on the deadline for the construction of the copper facilities and has also offered to meet the first two-year's cost of the hydro-power scheme.

The Government believes that Ok Tedi remains a sound commercial proposition and has no doubt that the development of the resource will continue over a long period of time.

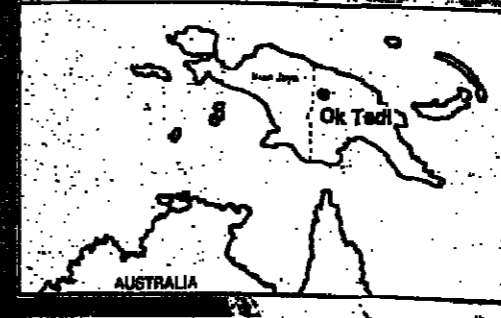
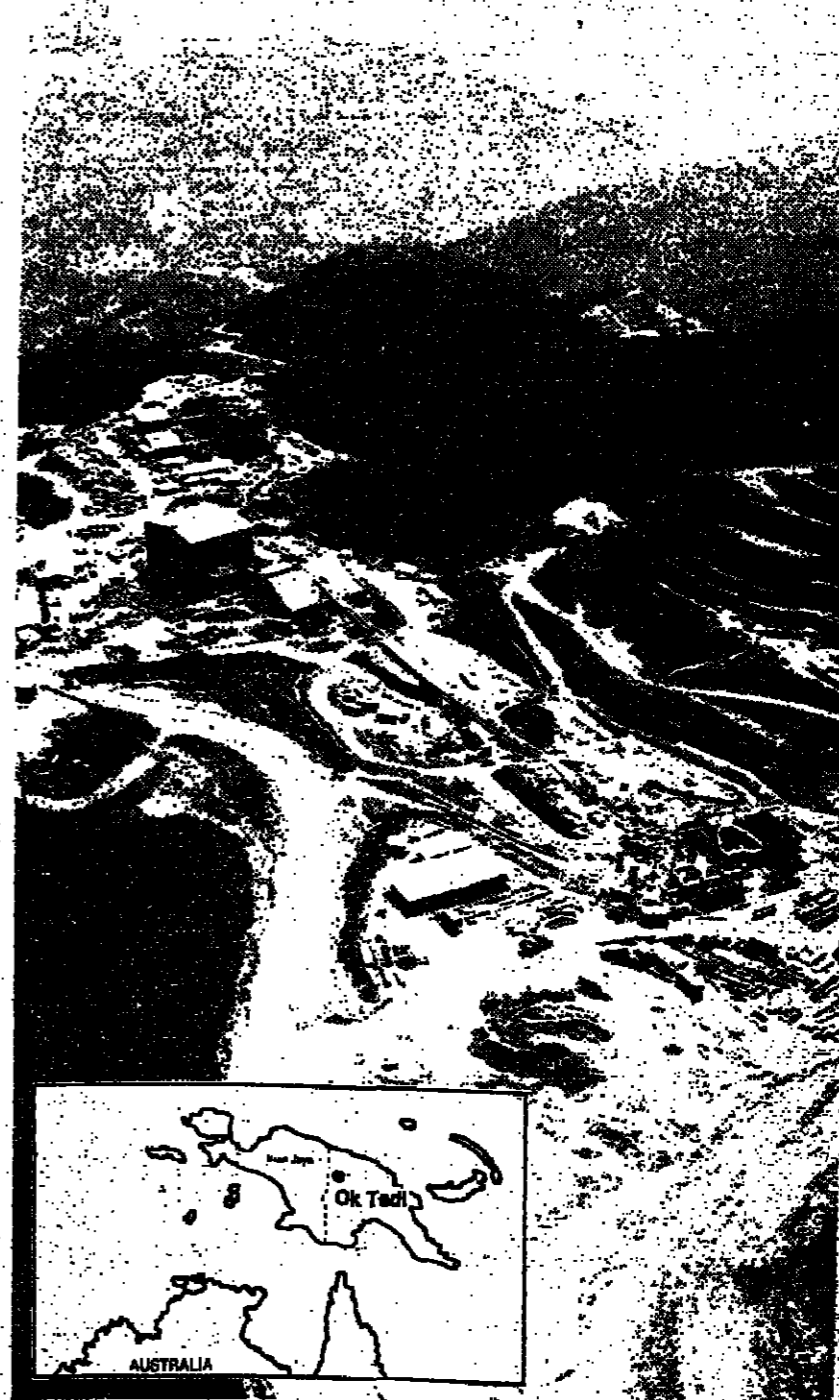
The Government is now taking steps to ensure that Ok Tedi Mining Limited meets its legal and

moral obligations, along the lines specified in the contract. It believes these to be in the long term interests of Papua New Guinea, its People and its environment.

This is purely a contractual dispute between the Government and Ok Tedi Mining Limited. It has no bearing whatsoever on other contracts and arrangements into which the Government has entered.

Papua New Guinea is a democratic country and is a member of the British Commonwealth. The Government's policy of welcoming foreign investment is unchanged and it looks forward to continuing mutually beneficial relationships with overseas investors.

**M.T. Somare,  
Prime Minister.**



STOCK MARKET REPORT

Stockbrokers take opposing views over P and O share price

By Derek Pain and Pam Spooner

An eleven-hour debate about the merits of the P and O shipping group and Sterling Shipping Trust merger gripped the stock market yesterday. With the £985 million deal about to be completed, P and O rose 3p and then fell to 363p, down 5p on the day as the conflicting claims of stockbrokers Phillips and Drew and Sprague, Kemp-Gee were studied.

The FT-SE share index closed well below its best for the day at 1,289.8 points, up 7.8 points. The pound's modest improvement, the Wednesday Wall Street advance (which was continuing as the London market closed) and a brighter oil picture following the British National Oil Corporation's decision to peg prices, helped equities.

Share prices on the electrical pitches showed improvement over recent weak levels, with CASE rising 12p to 244p. Crystalate up 5p at one stage before closing at 191p - up 1p on the day - Diploma 7p higher at 225p, Ferranti 8p better at 146p, International Signal up 13p at 273p, Logica up 10p at 284p, Plessey 5p to the good at 174p and Standard Telephones & Cables 2p up at 192p.

Cambridge Electronic Industries was among those which could make no headway; the price staying at a lowly 323p. One seller in the shares appears to have done much of the damage in the midst of market concern about the computer business.

AGB Research, another on the long list of takeover hopefuls, gained 10p to 237p, while Reuters was also 10p higher at 343p in sympathy with the news from Teletext/Execo. Brook Street Bureau, where bid approaches have been made, rose another 9p to 125p.

Imperial ahead despite further slump at Howard Johnson

Laws of copyright notwithstanding, there must be a great temptation for the Imperial board to rename its Howard Johnson motel and restaurant chain The Great American Disaster.

TEMPUS

There has been talk of a takeover bid for United Biscuits. This would slot neatly into Imperial's food group and also extend its presence in the US where half of UB's business lies.

Tricentrol

Tricentrol's carefully pitched £45.3 million rights issue sounds like an instant hit with the oil analysts. But its popularity owes a lot to recent good behaviour by the oil exploration company.

Grand Metropolitan

Grand Metropolitan posed its annual mystery for City analysts yesterday with the publication of first-quarter figures from its American subsidiary.

Traded option highlights

Imperial Group showed significant volume. Some 2,355 contracts in BT shares changed hands, 1,531 of them were call options. For Imperial there were 1,444 calls and 468 puts.

Lloyds to pay 13%

Lloyds Bank is to pay interest of 13 per cent on its new high-interest cheque account, launched next Monday. Customers will have to make an initial deposit of £2,500 and maintain at least this amount to earn the high rate of interest.

Brewers ask Lawson for 'fairer tax on beer'

Mr Ewart Boddington, the chairman of the Brewers' Society, went to Downing Street yesterday to plead with Mr Nigel Lawson, the Chancellor of the Exchequer, for fairer taxation treatment of beer in the coming Budget. Derek Harris writes.

Co-op merger

Royal Arsenal Co-operative Society, one of the oldest and biggest of the retail cooperatives centred on Woolwich, has merged with the Manchester-based Co-operative Wholesale Society which has already taken over the retailing operations of the Croydon-based South Suburban Society. Both Royal Arsenal and South Suburban had been making losses.

Base Lending Rates

Table listing base lending rates for various banks including ABN Bank, Adam & Company, Barclays, BCT, Citibank, etc.

Midland House Mortgage Rate

Midland Bank announces that, with effect from Thursday 14th February 1985 its House Mortgage Rate increased by 1% to 13.5% per annum. APR 14.2%.

Lloyds Bank Home Loan Interest Rates advertisement. With effect from Friday, 15th February 1985, Lloyds Bank Home Loan Rate will be increased from 11.75% p.a. to 13.25% p.a., APR 14.2%.

Lloyds Bank advertisement. Lloyds Bank is to pay interest of 13 per cent on its new high-interest cheque account, launched next Monday.

Co-op merger advertisement. Royal Arsenal Co-operative Society, one of the oldest and biggest of the retail cooperatives centred on Woolwich, has merged with the Manchester-based Co-operative Wholesale Society.

Base Lending Rates advertisement. Table listing base lending rates for various banks including ABN Bank, Adam & Company, Barclays, BCT, Citibank, etc.

Midland House Mortgage Rate advertisement. Midland Bank announces that, with effect from Thursday 14th February 1985 its House Mortgage Rate increased by 1% to 13.5% per annum. APR 14.2%.

Dalgety advertisement. Interim Results - the share price to December 31st 1984. Sales increased to £2,033 million. Profits increased to £33.2 million. Earnings per share increased to 25.1p.

Trusthouse Forte PLC advertisement. Results Year to 31st October, 1984. Table showing 1984 and 1983 figures for Sales, Gross trading profit, Profit before tax, etc.

YOUR OWN BUSINESS

On the efficiency stump

By Derek Harris
If the Cabinet Office efficiency unit, headed by Lord Young since last autumn, was measured by its enthusiasm and the way it has been stumping the country to size up problems, particularly those of small business, the unit would already deserve a success rating.

initiatives out of a hat. It is all about getting things done.
It also means monitoring what various Whitehall departments are already doing and how initiatives like the Business Expansion Scheme (BES), and the Loan Guarantee Scheme (LGS) are faring.

manufacturers and other suppliers. The efficiency unit is looking at several key areas in its pursuit of improving the lot of small businesses. Financing, management training and the co-ordination of the many advisory bodies are three of them.

New smaller firms chief

Jean Parker, who runs a group of small family companies in Grantham, is to be the next chairman of the Confederation of British Industry's Smaller Firms Council (SFC). She was appointed vice-chairman of the SFC this week, which means she will succeed Alan Stone when he steps down as SFC chairman next February.



Meet Mr Dingley the matchmaker

Reginald Dingley - 30 years in manufacturing and marketing and something of an inventor - has come up with an idea for a production clearing house or industrial marriage bureau. The aim is to match manufacturers overflowing with orders to those with spare capacity.



European Business and Innovation Centre Network, to be known as EBN, was launched yesterday to help new businesses and job-creation, especially through technological innovation. One of the 14 founder-members from seven countries in the EC is Britain's Business in the Community (BIC) whose chairman, Lord Carr, will be joining the EBN board.

"I'm fighting for survival - all this work is ruining me"

COMMERCIAL AND INDUSTRIAL PROPERTY

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NAME: ADDRESS: TELEPHONE (Domestic) ACCESSIBLE VIA A/C No. DATE OF INSERTION

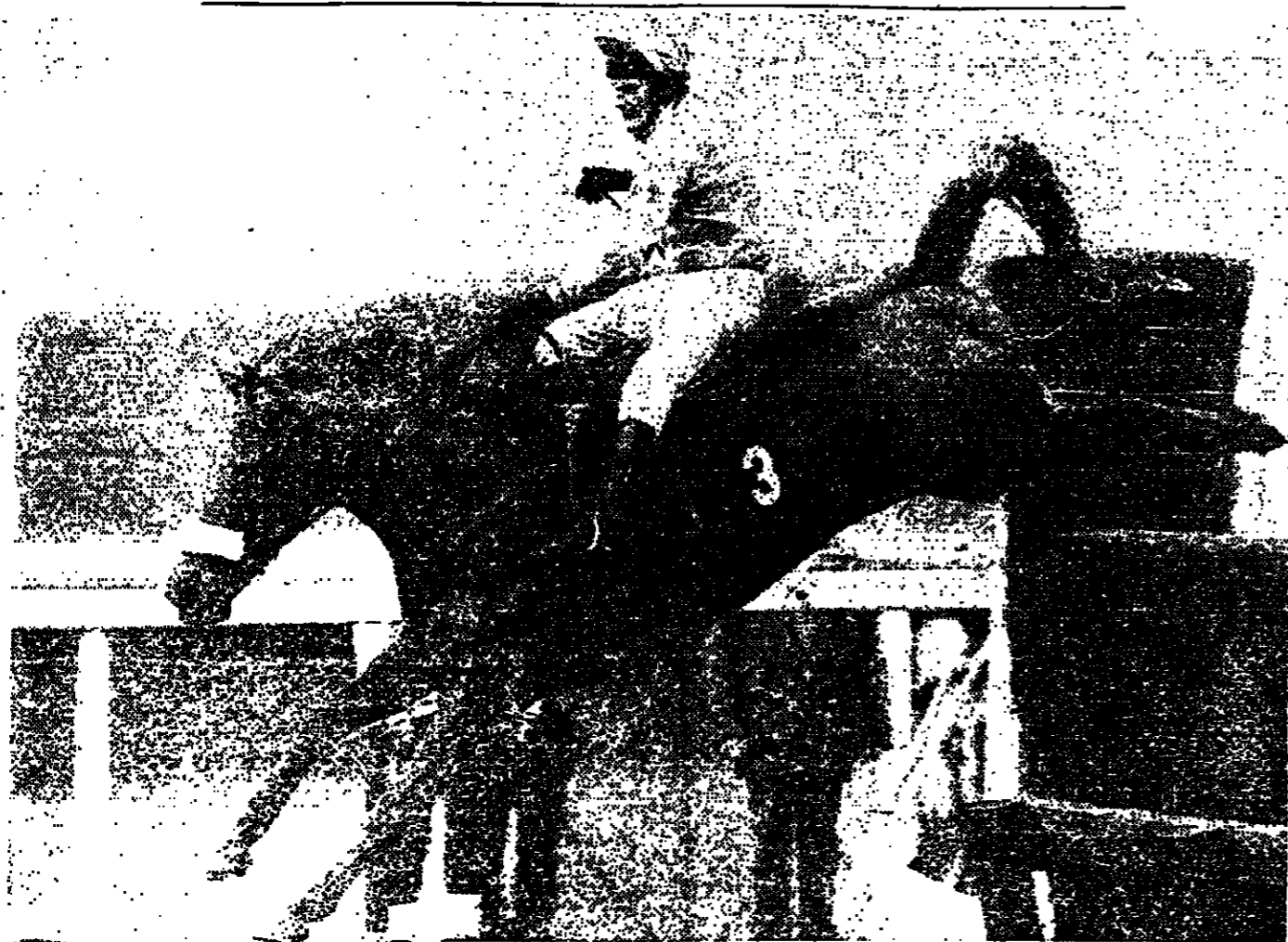








RACING: GOLD CUP CONFIDENCE BEHIND FORGIVE 'N FORGET



Forgive 'N Forget, regarded by his trainer as a genuine threat to Burrough Hill Lad (Photograph: Chris Cole)

Fighting talk from FitzGerald

By Michael Seely
The spring flowers may already be blooming in York-shire, but rock-hard conditions...

Money pours on Aviance for 1,000

By Dick Hinder
Aviance, trained by David O'Brien, was the subject of a massive gamble for the 1,000 Guineas with the leading London bookmakers yesterday...

Leopardstown brightest hope

Leopardstown in Ireland seems to be the only bright spot in an otherwise gloomy weekend for racing...

Water rates for drainage from roof

South West Water Authority v Rumble's
Before Lord Scarman, Lord Diplock, Lord Roskill, Lord Brandon of Oakbrook and Lord Templeman.

Concern over legal aid refusal

In re Adoption Application 125/1983
The refusal of legal aid on the merits to the natural parents who were contesting an adoption application...

Driver's right to elect blood sample

Reeves v Enstone
The right of a motorist under section 8(6) of the Road Traffic Act 1972, as substituted in Schedule 8 to the Transport Act 1981...

Hearing long contested adoption cases

In re Adoption Application 118/1984
The magistrates court was the least suitable forum for hearing an application by a local authority under section 14 of the Children Act 1975...

Unseemly court challenge

Regina v Feltham Justices, Ex parte Nye and Another
It was unseemly for counsel, no matter how well-founded his suspicion that a justices' clerk had taken part in the justices' discussion on the issues of fact...

Name ban order quashed

Regina v Arundel Justices, Ex parte Westminster Press Ltd.
On a proper construction of section 11 of the Contempt of Court Act 1981, a court had no power, pursuant to that section, to prohibit the press from publishing the name of a defendant...

Money pours on Aviance for 1,000

By Dick Hinder
Aviance, trained by David O'Brien, was the subject of a massive gamble for the 1,000 Guineas with the leading London bookmakers yesterday...

Car Buyer's Guide

General advertisement for car buyers, featuring sections for Motor Brokers Limited, Woodbridge Collection, Lotus Elite, and various car models like Mercedes 190 Diesel, Astra 1.6 Diesel, and Lotus Elite.

Motoring by Peter Waymark

Today's drivers find another dimension

In the course of her television journey round Britain last year...



The short answer is that while tin opener technology has probably not advanced very much over the past 10 years...

The Mazda 626 hatchback - more than a tin opener. Mechanically the 626 embodies almost every advance of the last decade...

Not, let it be emphasized that the Mazda is an exceptional car, though it can more than hold its own with such home grown competitors as the Vauxhall Cavalier...

Mechanically the 626 is an archetypal summary of how far cars have come since the Hunter was in its prime.

And, of course, fuel saving has become topic number one since the Hunter was conceived and the Mazda has two useful warning lights on the fascia to aid feather footed driving.

My test car, the 2-litre hatch, proved a brisk performer, with a smooth, willing engine and well-sorted gearbox.

Heated rear windows were only just becoming standard items in the Hunter era; now we wonder how we did without them.

A novelty of the 626 is an electronically controlled variable shock absorber system, which enables the damping characteristics of the car to be controlled through a selector mounted on the fascia.

The important drawback of the car, and a surprising one given its length and transverse front-mounted engine...

The PSA group (Peugeot and Talbot) was the next most successful manufacturer, Peugeot doing well with its diesel versions of the 205 and 305.

The main driving difference is that the soft and pronounced bodyroll had given way to a tauter feel, with lighter steering.

Another new arrival is the Audi 90 from West Germany. The name heralds a change of emphasis rather than substance.

There are two versions - the two litre CD, available in manual and an automatic and costing from £10,030; and the four-wheel drive Quattro, powered by a 2.2 litre unit developing 136bhp...

From Volvo comes a new top of the range model, the 760 Turbo Automatic. Apart from the four-speed transmission, the standard features include an anti-lock braking system and automatic air conditioning.

Vital statistics

Model: Mazda 626GLX hatchback. Official consumption: Urban 28.9mpg, 56mpg, 44.1mpg, 75mpg, 34.9mpg. Length: 14ft 6in. Insurance: Group 6.

New arrivals

A significant newcomer to the British market this week is the mark two Renault 5. Launched in 1972, the 5 was the first of the modern supermini hatchbacks...

The new model looks similar to the old but every body panel has been changed. The effect is neater and crisper, with the practical advantage of more interior space.

Car Buyer's Guide

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Mercedes-Benz 380 SEL. Sept '82, F.S.H. Silver, blue interior, A.M.G. conversion. £25,000. Tel: 01-572 1477 Office

Mercedes 300 D L.W.B. 8 seater, new, black, 5 speed etc £17,900. 190 E Full specification, metallic green. £15,900. 911 Porsche turbo. 1982. As new. Black metallic, white trim. £22,500.

Porsche 1984 Model Porsche 911 Carrera Cabriolet. £24,000. 0483 85115 (office) 0705 465382 (home). PORSCHE 928 Mark 2 1985. £22,900.

Jaguar XJS. 1984 (B) Jaguar XJS H.E. Black 4,000m. £22,900. 1984 (A) Jaguar XJS H.E. Black 2,000m. £17,995. 1984 (A) Jaguar XJS H.E. Sapphire Blue 11,000m. £18,500.

Mercedes. VISIT OUR HUGE SHOWROOM WITH 50 MERCEDES-BENZ ON DISPLAY. HERE IS A SELECTION FROM OUR STOCK. 280 SE (A) Silver, blue velour, etc. 280 SE (B) White, black cloth, ABS, etc. 280 SE (C) Automatic, cream cloth, etc.

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McMell & Co Ltd. 280 SE (A) Silver, blue velour, etc. 280 SE (B) White, black cloth, ABS, etc. 280 SE (C) Automatic, cream cloth, etc. 280 SE (D) Automatic, cream cloth, etc.

Wanted. SIEVER SHADOW I (1974 (June). £17,900. 1984 (B) Jaguar XJS H.E. Black 4,000m. £22,900. 1984 (A) Jaguar XJS H.E. Black 2,000m. £17,995.

Lancia. Lancia AT H R DRIVE. £12,995. 1984 (B) Jaguar XJS H.E. Black 4,000m. £22,900. 1984 (A) Jaguar XJS H.E. Black 2,000m. £17,995.

ENTRIES, MARRIAGES, DEATHS
Announcements...
THE TIMES
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DEATHS
PARRY (Rowena), wife of the late Rev...
PULHAM (Rowena), wife of the late Rev...
RICHARD (John), son of the late Rev...
SWIFT (John), son of the late Rev...
SNOW (John), son of the late Rev...

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PROPERTY SOUTH OF THE THAMES

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Very conveniently situated...

BIRTHS
ASHBURY - On February 10...
ASPEY - On February 11...
BOISSEAU - On January 31...
CORSETT - On February 12...
CRAYFORD - On January 22...
DELANO - On February 12...
FERGUSON - Born on Christmas Day...
FREEMAN - On February 12...
GREGORY - On February 1985...
GURNESS - On 8th February 1985...
HODGE - On 12th February at Mount...
MORRISON - On February 4...
O'BRIEN - On January 30...
ROE - On February 9...
SCHNEIDER - On February 8...
SPENCER - On February 8...
WATSON - On February 8...
YATES - On 15th Feb at Malinda...

FUNERALS
BARBY - Little's funeral will be at 4...
WEDDING - Dr D. Bell Tweedie, BA...
IN MEMORIAM
KEEFE - In James Thomas, remembered...

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BBC 1
6.58 Breakfast Time with Frank...

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Cricket, Pacific-style: BBC 2, 9.30pm

FIFTY WAYS TO GET ENLIGHTENED (BBC 2 9.30pm)...

BBC 2
6.55 Open University: Engineering...

CHOICE
darkness. And, as my picture on the...

CHANNEL 4
2.30 Master Bridge. The fifth round...

Radio 4
Howard's selection of radio and television extracts...

Radio 4 (continued)
1.00 The World at One: News...

Radio 3
6.55 Weather, 7.00 News...

Radio 1
6.00 AM Adnan Jouri, 7.00 Noel...

Radio 2
4.00 AM Colin Barry, 5.00 Ray Moore...

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CINEMAS (continued)
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